OLYROOS

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL RESULTS

1967 (?) - 1999

Compiled by Doug.Butcher

This is an interim issue due to the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 virus that closed most avenues of research.

What's in a name?
In 1967 an under-23 team played four games in New Caledonia under the banner of Australia 'B'.
It was not uncommon for under-23 teams to be named as the 'B' team. An example was Romania 'B' who played four matches in Australia in 1970, and were also known as the Romanian Olympic team.

The Olyroos, is the official nickname for the Under-23 team. The name was adopted in 1990.

Prior to 1984 the Olympic Games football tournament was for "Amateurs" only.

Australia's first football appearance in the Olympic Games was in the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games.
At that time Australia's senior side were considered as amateur even though the team consisted of the full international squad.
So were the Australian players amateurs?
This fact had been raised several times and in an article written by Eric Litchfield of the Sunday Times (Johannesburg), 30/7/1950 at the end of the 1950 South Afican tour, it was explored in some detail.

The Australian Test touring team's closest kept soccer secret is out. Bob Lawrie's players are professionals within the strict meaning of the term.
They receive a cash "cut" from their club's annual profits when at home. And if that does not make them professionals, I don't know what does.
One thing is certain. They cannot compete in that amateur of all amateur affairs - the Olympic Games.
Most Australian clubs are sponsored by businesses, says Dave Johnston manager of the Test touring team. "Players do not receive a match wage. They are given match expenses. At the end of the season a certain percentage of the profits is distributed among the players."
That is why the Australians put out feelers in the hope that the South African Football Association would grant them a bonus on the strength of the present tour's financial success.
Even the transfer market has spread to the Commonwealth. Here is what the "Sydney Morning Herald" published recently: "After several months' secret negotiations, Auburn last night signed up the former international goalkeeper, Ken Hough, from Drummoyne, at a fee of £25.
Hough represented Australia in New Zealand when Norman Conquest was not available for that tour.
Conflicting reports surrounded the transfer of Reg Date, well known to the 1947 Springboks. Officials estimated the fee was £100. Members of Bob Lawrie's team believed it was nearer £600.
Another Australian club tried to sign "Bunny" Nunn, the St.Helens (Queensland) centre-forward. The fee asked was £300. Is this the start of the transfer racket in the Commonwealth?
Anyway, players do receive cash. Whether South African Football Association officials knew beforehand or not, the fact remains that the Springboks drew this series with a side which ranks as professional.
South Africa could well afford to copy this Australian method of cash bonuses as a substitute for match wages. It might help curb the growing tendancy among players to migrate to overseas professional soccer.

However, for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games, the IOC decided to admit professional players. FIFA did not want the Olympics to rival the World Cup, so a compromise was struck that allowed teams from Africa, Asia, Oceania and CONCACAF to field their strongest professional sides, while restricting UEFA and CONMEBOL teams to players who had not played in a World Cup.
Since 1992 male competitors must be under 23 years old, then since 1996, players had to be under 23 years old with three over-23 year old players being allowed per squad. The new format allowed teams from around the world to compete equally.

The Olyroos have sometimes been shown as Under-22's (for example the 2013 AFC U-22 Championship), and Under-21's. U-21's age group is common in Europe, however, the FFA continues to use the U-23 classification.

1967						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
6-Nov	Noumea	New Caledonia	Australia 'B'	2-1		
8-Nov	Noumea, New Caledonia	JS Vallée du Ti	Australia 'B'	1-8		
10-Nov	Noumea, New Caledonia	New Zealand	Australia 'B'	1-3		
??-Nov	Noumea, New Caledonia	AS Le Nickel	Australia 'B'	1-2		

1974						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
20-Mar	Sydney	Australia U-23 'A'	Australia U-23 'B'	3-3		
2-Apr	Jakarta, Indonesia	Persija	Australia U-23	1-2		
4-Apr	Palembang, Indonesia	Indonesia U-23	Australia U-23	0-1		
6-Apr	Palembang, Indonesia	Persija	Australia U-23	0-1		
10-Apr	Sydney	Australia U-23	Australia	?-?		

1984						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
14-Oct	Singapore	Indonesia U-23	Australia U-23	1-2		Merlion Cup, Group 'A'
19-Oct	Singapore	Singapore	Australia U-23	0-1		Merlion Cup, Group 'A'
21-Oct	Singapore	Holland Amateurs	Australia U-23	5-2		Merlion Cup, Group 'A'
26-Oct	Singapore	Iraq	Australia U-23	1-1	Iraq won 9-8 on penalty shoot-out	Merlion Cup, semi-final
28-Oct	Singapore	Holland Amateurs	Australia U-23	3-0		Merlion Cup 3rd - 4th place play-off

1990						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
17-Aug	Gillingham, England	Gillingham	Australia U-23	0-0		
19-Aug	Dundee, Scotland	Dundee United	Australia U-23	1-1		
22-Aug	Zurich, Switzerland	Switzerland U-21	Australia U-23	0-0		
24-Aug	Dublin, Eire	League of Ireland U-21	Australia U-23	2-2		
29-Aug	Hlinsko, Czechoslovakia	Czechoslovakia U-21	Australia U-23	2-0		

1991						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
26-Mar	Canberra	Australia U-23	Malaysia U-23	4-1		
28-Mar	Canberra	Australia U-23	Malaysia U-23	2-0		
19-May	Melbourne	Australia U-23	Papua New Guinea U-23	4-0		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round
22-May	Melbourne	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	2-0		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round
26-May	Melbourne	Australia U-23	Fiji U-23	7-0		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round
11-Nov	Nadi, Fiji	Papua New Guinea U-23	Australia U-23	0-5		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round
13-Nov	Lautoka, Fiji	New Zealand U-23	Australia U-23	1-2		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round
16-Nov	Ba, Fiji	Fiji U-23	Australia U-23	0-3		Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round

1992						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
26-Jan	Sydney	New South Wales XI	Australia U-23	2-3		
2-Feb	Melbourne	Victoria	Australia U-23	1-2		
22-Apr	Lisarow	Central Coast Coasties	Australia U-23	2-3		
3-May	Iri, Korea Republic	Korea Republic U-23	Australia U-23	1-0		
5-May	Pyeongtaek, Korea Republic	Korea Republic U-23	Australia U-23	2-1		
17-May	Sydney	Australia U-23	Netherlands U-23	1-1		Olympic Games Qualifying round - OFC / UEFA play-off 1st.leg
24-May	Utrecht, Netherlands	Netherlands U-23	Australia U-23	2-2	after extra time	Olympic Games Qualifying round - OFC / UEFA play-off 2nd.leg
1-Jul	Dusseldorf, Germany	Fortuna Dusseldorf	Australia U-23	2-0		
4-Jul	Papendaal, Netherlands	Kuwait U-23	Australia U-23	2-4		
8-Jul	Papendaal, Netherlands	Borussia Dortmund	Australia U-23	0-4		
10-Jul	Papendaal, Netherlands	Valenciennes FC	Australia U-23	0-0		
23-Jul	Barcelona, Spain	Paraguay U-23	Australia U-23	0-2		
26-Jul	Sabadell, Spain	Ghana U-23	Australia U-23	3-1		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group D
28-Jul	Barcelona, Spain	Mexico U-23	Australia U-23	1-1		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group D
30-Jul	Zaragoza, Spain	Denmark U-23	Australia U-23	0-3		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group D
2-Aug	Barcelona, Spain	Sweden U-23	Australia U-23	1-2		Olympic Games finals, Quarter-Final
5-Aug	Barcelona, Spain	Poland U-23	Australia U-23	6-1		Olympic Games finals, Semi-Final
7-Aug	Barcelona, Spain	Ghana U-23	Australia U-23	1-0		Olympic Games finals, 3rd-4th place Play-off

1994						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
16-Feb	Canberra	Australia U-23	Urawa Red Diamonds	3-1		
17-Feb	Canberra	Australia U-23	Jubilo Iwata	3-0		
15-May	Melbourne	Australia U-23	FC Aris Thessaloniki	1-0		
21-May	Tweed Heads	Australia U-23	Sheffield United	1-1		
27-May	Newcastle	Australia U-23	FC Aris Thessaloniki	0-1		
8-Jul	Perth	Perth Kangaroos	Australia U-23	0-2		
10-Jul	Perth	Western Australia	Australia U-23	1-1		
17-Jul	Selangor, Malaysia	Clube de Regatas do Flamengo	Australia U-23	0-0		Perasmian Stadium Shah Alam Tournament
19-Jul	Selangor, Malaysia	Leeds United	Australia U-23	2-1		Perasmian Stadium Shah Alam Tournament
26-Jul	Glasgow, Scotland	Rangers	Australia U-23	0-1		
28-Jul	Paisley, Scotland	St.Mirren	Australia U-23	1-1		
30-Jul	Dundee, Scotland	Dundee United	Australia U-23	2-2		
2-Aug	Cumbernauld, Scotland	Clyde FC	Australia U-23	1-1		
8-Aug	Papendaal, Netherlands	U.S.A. Olympic Team	Australia U-23	1-1		
10-Aug	Papendaal, Netherlands	FC Dordrecht 90	Australia U-23	2-2		

1995						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
14-Jan	Sydney	Australia U-23	Denmark U-23	1-3		Four Nations Cup, Group Stage
16-Jan	Canberra	Australia U-23	Korea Republic U-23	1-1		Four Nations Cup, Group Stage
18-Jan	Wollongong	Australia U-23	Japan U-22	2-1		Four Nations Cup, Group Stage
21-Jan	Sydney	Australia U-23	Japan U-22	3-1		Four Nations Cup, 3rd-4th place play-off
24-May	Sydney	Australia U-23	West Ham United	0-1		
27-May	Brisbane	Australia U-23	West Ham United	4-0		
17-Aug	Ta'if, Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia U-23	Australia U-23	3-0		
26-Oct	Canberra	Australia U-23	Japan U-23	3-0		

1996						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
13-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Vanuatu U-23	9-1		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
17-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Solomon Islands U-23	4-0	match awarded to Solomon Islands, 2-0	Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
19-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Fiji U-23	10-0		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
21-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	5-0		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
25-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Vanuatu U-23	12-0		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
27-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Solomon Islands U-23	7-0		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
29-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Fiji U-23	5-0		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
31-Jan	Adelaide	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	0-1		Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group
16-May	Indianapolis , U.S.A.	Indianapolis XI	Australia U-23	0-3		
19-May	Indianapolis , U.S.A.	U.S.A. Olympic XI	Australia U-23	0-2		
26-May	Edmonton, Canada	Canada U-23	Australia U-23	2-2		Olympic Games Qualifying, CONCACAF - OFC Play-off, 1st leg
2-Jun	Sydney	Australia U-23	Canada U-23	5-0		Olympic Games Qualifying, CONCACAF - OFC Play-off, 2nd leg
20-Jul	Florida, U.S.A.	France U-23	Australia U-23	2-0		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group B
22-Jul	Florida, U.S.A.	Saudi Arabia U-23	Australia U-23	1-2		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group B
24-Jul	Orlando, U.S.A.	Spain U-23	Australia U-23	3-2		Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group B
6-Nov	Secunda, Republic of South Africa	Republic of South Africa U-23	Australia U-23	0-2		
9-Nov	Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa	Republic of South Africa U-23	Australia U-23	1-1		

1997						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
12-Jul	Canberra	Australia U-23	Republic of South Africa U-23	2-0		
19-Jul	Wollongong	Australia U-23	Republic of South Africa U-23	2-3		
24-Jul	Coffs Harbour	Holiday Coast U-20 Invitation XI	Australia U-23	1-7		
26-Jul	Coffs Harbour	Holiday Coast Invitation XI	Australia U-23	1-7		
30-Jul	Toowoomba	Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI	Australia U-23	0-5		
1-Aug	Brisbane	Queensland	Australia U-23	0-1		
3-Aug	Rockhampton	Central Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI	Australia U-23	0-2		
6-Aug	Rockhampton	Rockhampton	Australia U-23	0-1		
8-Aug	Townsville	North Queensland Razorbacks	Australia U-23	1-7		
10-Aug	Ayr	North Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI	Australia U-23	3-7		
15-Aug	Mareeba	Far North Queensland Taipans	Australia U-23	0-4		
17-Aug	Cairns	Far North Queensland U-20 Taipans	Australia U-23	1-16		
20-Aug	Canberra	Young A.C.T. Rockets	Australia U-23	1-5		

1998						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
27-Jan	Canberra	Australian Institute of Sport	Australia U-23	0-3		
28-Jan	Canberra	Canberra Cosmos	Australia U-23	1-0		
29-Jan	Canberra	A.C.T. Rockets	Australia U-23	2-4		
25-Feb	Albury	Carlton Youth Team	Australia U-23	0-2		
21-Mar	Sydney	Australia U-23	Brazil U-23	2-1		
24-Mar	Adelaide	Australia U-23	Brazil U-23	3-2		
28-Mar	Perth	Australia U-23	Brazil U-23	2-1		
26-May	Canberra	Australian Institute of Sport	Australia U-23	1-3		
13-Jun	Townsville	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	1-0		
17-Jun	Lismore	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	2-0		
20-Jun	Coffs Harbour	Australia U-23	New Zealand U-23	4-0		
11-Jul	Buenos Aires, Argentina	San Lorenzo	Australia U-23	1-0		
12-Jul		Maccabi	Australia U-23	0-10		
15-Jul	Santiago, Chile	Club Deportivo Universidad Católica Youth	Australia U-23	1-0		
18-Jul	La Florida, Chile	Audax Italiano	Australia U-23	1-5		
21-Jul	Santiago, Chile	Chile U-23	Australia U-23	1-1		
29-Jul	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Argentina U-23	Australia U-23	0-1		
7-Sep	Sydney	Sydney United	Australia U-23	?-?		
9-Sep	Wollongong	Wollongong City Wolves	Australia U-23	1-0		
25-Nov	Sydney	Australia U-23	People's Republic of China U-23	0-1		
27-Nov	Wollongong	Australia U-23	People's Republic of China U-23	3-3		

1999						
Date	Place	Teams		Score		Tournament
12-Jan	Melbourne	Port Melbourne Sharks	Australia U-23	0-3		
15-Jan	Morwell	Australia U-23	Korea Republic U-23	0-1		
22-Jan	Melbourne	Australia U-23	Korea Republic U-23	0-2		
12-May	Urawa, Japan	Japan U-23	Australia U-23	0-1		
??-June	Canberra	A.C.T. Rockets	Australia U-23	0-3		
??-June	Sydney	Australia	Australia U-23	0-1		
20-Jun	Singapore	Singapore	Australia U-23	0-5		
30-Jun	Auckland, New Zealand	New Zealand U-23	Australia U-23	0-2		
3-Jul	Christchurch, New Zealand	New Zealand U-23	Australia U-23	0-3		
2-Sep	Marchwood, England	Southampton	Australia U-23	1-4		
7-Sep	Boreham Wood, England	Kuwait	Australia U-23	1-1		
15-Sep	Tunis, Tunisia	Tunisia U-23	Australia U-23	0-1		
17-Sep	Tunis, Tunisia	Tunisia U-23	Australia U-23	1-1		

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. November 1967,	Stade Numa-Daly Magenta, Noumea, New Caledonia			2000

New Caledonia..2 v. Australia 'B'..1

half time, New Caledonia..2 v. Australia 'B'..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Retired Injured	Sent Off	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Retired Injured	Sent Off	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Ross Kelly				
								RB	David "Dave" Johnston				
								LB	Colin "Col" Curran				
								RH	Ray Cush				
								CH	Geoff Morgan				
								LH	John Perin				
								OR	Larry Armytage				
		Andre Benebig	35					IR	Gary Manuel				
		Jean Nippy	37					CF	Ian Johnston				
								IL	Peter Pont				
								OL	Denis Patterson	89			
Team Coach							Team Coach		John Tatters				
							Team Trainer						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Arthur Williams (New Zealand)											
Linesman													
Linesman													

The Australian 'B' team was also shown as Australia U-23's.

match report from The Canberra Times, 7/11/1967, page 29 by AAP-Reuter https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/106980951/11657503
Two goals in a two-minute first half spell sent Australia sliding to a 2-1 defeat against New Caledonia in the opening match of a three-nation soccer competition today.
Andre Benebig scored New Caledonia's first goal in the 35th minute and Jean Nippy added the second two minutes later. In a rare Australian raid, David Johnston missed a good chance in the 40th minute.
New Caledonia continued in command in the second half, but missed several scoring chances. The Australians, outpaced throughout the match, rarely threatened the New Caledonian goal, but in the 89th minute Denis Patterson scored their only goal.
The game was refreshingly free of fouls, due to the sure control of New Zealand referee Arthur Williams.
New Caledonia's main weapon was their speed, which Australia could not counteract despite better ball control and teamwork. Attendance was 2,000.
New Caledonia will meet New Zealand on Wednesday, and New Zealand and Australia clash in the final match on Friday.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. November 1967,	Stade Numa-Daly Magenta, Noumea, New Caledonia			

New Zealand..1 v. Australia 'B'..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Retired Injured	Sent Off	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Retired Injured	Sent Off	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Graeme Peterson						GK	Ross Kelly				
	RB	David Wallace						RB	David "Dave" Johnston				
	LB	John "Iain" Gillies						LB	Colin "Col" Curran				
	RH	William "Bill" Kennedy						RH	Ray Cush				
	CH	Joseph "Joe" Habets						CH	Geoff Morgan				
	LH	Grahame Bilby						LH	John Perin				
	OR	Gordon "Brian" Smith						OR	Larry Armytage	X			
	IR	Imre Kiss						IR	Gary Manuel	X			
	CF	Martin						CF	Ian Johnston				
	IL	Paddy Breslin	X					IL	Horst Schneider				
	OL	Ken Ironside						OL	Denis Patterson	X			

Team Coach		Team Coach	John Tatters
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

The Australia 'B' team also played two other matches on the tour.
08-11-67 JS Vallée du Ti..1 v. Australia 'B'..8
??-11-67 AS Le Nickel..1 v. Australia 'B'..2

1974

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. March 1974,	Sydney Sports Ground, Moore Park, Sydney, New South Wales			2795

Australia U-23 'A'..3 v. Australia U-23 'B'..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK							GK					
								MF	Walter Valeri	X			
								MF	Joe Senkalski	X			
	FW	Joe Palinkas	X										
	FW	Mike Micevski	X										
	FW	John Nyskohus	X					FW	Terry Butler	X			
						SUBSTITUTES							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

This match was a "curtain raiser" for the Australia v. Auckland XI game.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
2nd. April 1974,	Senayan Stadium, Jakarta, Indonesia		33C	40000

Persija (Indonesia)..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Persija..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Yudo Hadiyanto						GK	Allan Maher (c)				
								DF	Vince Bannon				
		Risdianto (c)	53					MF	Murray Barnes	70			
								MF	Gary Byrne				
								MF	Iain Fagan				
								FW	John Davidson				
								FW	Mike Micevski	50			
								FW	Joe Palinkas				
						SUBSTITUTES							

Team Coach	S.Aliandu	Team Coach	Eric Worthington
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager	F.Hutasoit	Team Manager	
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

The Olyroos squad was:-
Goalkeepers: - Allan Maher, Kevin Jones.
Defenders: - Vincent "Vince" Bannon, Fausto Tarquino, Charles Dench, Warren Halverson, Gary Mateljan.
Midfielders: - Murray Barnes, Gary Byrne, Iain Fagan, Walter Valeri, Joe Senkalski.
Forwards: - Mike Micevski, Joe Palinkas, John Nyskohus, Greg Lynch, John Davidson.

Note:- Between 7th and 21st January,1974 Persija completed a tour of NSW. The Persija squad included the following players Yudo Hadiyanto, Sutan Harhara, Oyong Liza, I.Ibrahim, Widodo, Sofyan Hadi, Iswadi, Sumirta, Andi Lala, Rachman Halim, Risdianto, Salmon Nasution, Jamaluddin, Arwyanto, Jeffry, Makmum, A.A.Rake, Machful Umar, and Suhanta

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 4/4/1974, page 17
The Australian Under-23 Soccer team scored an impressive 2-1 win over the experienced Jakarta Perjisa in steamy conditions here last night.
The bustling, aggressive play of the young Australians gave them the edge over their mostly older opponents.
In the 25th minute of the second half, striker Murray Barnes from Sydney scored the deciding goal with a superbly timed shot.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
4th. April 1974,	Palembang, Sumatra, Indonesia			20000

Indonesia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK												
	?												
	?												
	?												
	?												
	?												
	?							MF	Iain Fagan				
	?												
	?												
	?							FW	Joe Palinkas	X(pk)			
	?												
		SUBSTITUTES											

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eric Worthington
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. April 1974,	Palembang, Sumatra, Indonesia			30000

Persija (Indonesia)..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK												
	?												
	?												
	?												
	?												
	?							MF	Iain Fagan				
	?												
	?							FW	John Davidson	3			
	?							FW	Mike Micevski				
	?												
	?												
		SUBSTITUTES											

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eric Worthington
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 8/4/1974, page 16

Jakarta, Sunday. -

The Australian under-23 Soccer team beat the Jakarta side Persija 1-0 in Palembang, South Sumatra, last night.

The goal was scored by centre-forward Ian Sagean following a sixth minute corner kick.

In other games on their three-match tour the Australians beat Persija 2-1 in Jakarta last Tuesday, and beat the Indonesian under-23 in Palembang two days later.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. April 1974, 20.00	Englefield Stadium, Dural, Sydney, New South Wales			

Australia U-23..? v. Australia..?

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK					
	RB							RB					
	LB							LB					
	RH							RH					
	CH							CH					
	LH							LH					
	OR							OR					
	IR							IR					
	CF							CF					
	IL							IL					
	OL							OL					
		SUBSTITUTES											

Team Coach		Team Coach	Zvonimir "Rale" Rasic
		Team Trainer	
Team Manager		Team Manager	John Barclay
Referee			
Linesman			
Linesman			

Merlion Cup, Group 'A'

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. October 1984,	National Stadium, Singapore			11029

Indonesia..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Indonesia..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Hermansyah						GK	Anthony "Tony" Fraken				
		Patar Tambunan						DF	Robert "Robbie" Hooker				
		Hendratmo Budiawan						DF	Andrés "Andrew" Bernal				
		Marzuki Nyakmad				63		DF	Raymond "Ray" Vlietstra				
		Azhari Rangkuti						DF	Ralph Maier				
		Ali Ridwan Mas						DF	Howard Tredinnick				
		Danni Bulung						MF	John Mihailidis				
		Abdul Khamid				46		MF	John Panagis				70*
		Sain Irmis	21					FW	Sean Ingham				70
		Noah Mekiem						FW	Warren Spink	59	X		
		Frans Sinatra						FW	Frank Farina	70			
						SUBSTITUTES							
		S.Kamaludin				63		FW	Alex Bundalo				70
		Agil Alhadsy				46		MF	Andrew "Andy" Koczka				70*

Team Coach	Lacerda Silho	Team Coach	Jim Shoulder
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Abdul Qadir (Iraq)		
Linesman			
Linesman			

Danni Bulung is also shown as Danni Bolung. Abdul Khamid is also shown as Abdul Hamid. Azhari Rangkuti is also shown as Azhari Rangkuty. Noah Mekiem is also shown as Noah Meriem.

match report from The Straits Times, 15/10/1984, page 31
It could not have happened to a more deserving player. Curly-haired Frank Farina, ever-willing to embark on a merry chase, thumped in the winning goal to help Australia pip Indonesia 2-1 in a Merlion Cup Group A soccer match at the National Stadium last night.
Frank went on a bursting run midway through the second half, giving a lesson on the art of sprinting to H.Budiawan before placing his shot at the far post.
The ball smashed against the post and rebounded across the line to guarantee Frank of more calling cards from soccer-wise managers. For the moment, it assured the defending champions full points.
Indonesia, handled by Brazilian Lacerda Silho, were almost unrecognisable. They seldom wilted.
After threatening to knock the stuffing out of the opposition on several occasions, Sain Irmis finally delivered the blow in the 21st minute.
Sain feinted, flipped the ball from his left to right foot and uncorked a ferocious low shot that had the static goalkeeper Tony Franken blushing.
Australia tried for a quick equaliser, but sound defending delayed their celebration until after the interval.
Signs of Australia's vibrance were abundant. First, goalkeeper Herman Syah had to bundle out Frank's header, then Ray Vlietsra just missed. But Warren Spink did not.
He collected the ball inside his half in the 59th minute, then kicked off an amazing run that propelled him into the box. Herman instinctively left his posts to narrow the angle, but Warren was not to be denied.
It was a pity he had to soil the evening with ungentlemanly conduct by ignoring Iraqi referee Abdul Qadir's whistle.
Even more pitiful when the Aussies, hell-bent on preserving Frank's goal, indulged in boring back passes and dilly-dallying at the back.
Australia: Tony Franken, Robert Hooker, Howard Tredinnilk, Andrew Bernal, Ray Vlietsra, Ralph Maier, Sean Ingham (Andrew Koczka), Warren Spink, Frank Farina, John Mihailidis and John Panagis (Alex Bundalo).
Indonesia: Herman Syah, Patar Tambunan, H.Budiawan, Marzuki (S.Kamaludin), Azhari Rangkuti, Ati Ridwan Mas, Danny Bolung, Abdul Khamid, Sain Irmis, Noah Mekiem and Frans Sinatra.

match report from Soccer Action, Volume 9, Number 38, 17/10/1984, page 2
The Australian side took time to settle in the game, with aimless long balls pumped forward in the hope of finding either Farina or Spink.
Indonesia scored first through Irmis in the 21st minute.
Spink collected a Robert Hooker pass out of defence and set off on a solo run, past a defender, before cutting inside to fire an angled shot from inside the box, which the keeper could have done better against.
Tony Franken saved a direct free kick from Aji Ridwan Mas before Farina scored the winner in the 70th minute.
The striker sprinted past Budiawan down the right, then again cut inside to fire a shot that went in off the far post.
Shoulder replaced Panadis and Ingham late in the match to give Andrew Koczka and Alex Bundalo a chance to shake off their nerves and get a feel of the atmosphere at international level.

The match was a "double header" with Holland Amateurs..2 v. Singapore..1

Merlion Cup, Group 'A'													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
19th. October 1984,			National Stadium, Singapore									8000	
Singapore..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Singapore..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	David Lee						GK	Anthony "Tony" Fraken				
		Lim Tang Boon		X				DF	Robert "Robbie" Hooker				
		Razali Saad		X				DF	Andrés "Andrew" Bernal		42		
		Norhalis Shafik		X				DF	Raymond "Ray" Vlietstra				
		A.R.J. Mani						DF	Ralph Maier				
		Hashim Hosni						DF	Howard Tredinnick				
		Thambiayah Pathmanathan						MF	John Mihailidis				
		Rajagopal Suriamurthi		X	81			MF	John Panagis				
		Kuniuraman Kannan				X		FW	Alex Bundalo	6			75
		Tay Peng Kee				X*		FW	Warren Spink				75*
		Malek Awab (c)			86			FW	Frank Farina				
SUBSTITUTES													
		Razali Rashid				X		MF	David Sharpe				75
		Darimosuvito Tokijan				X*		FW	Sean Ingham				75*
Team Coach							Team Coach		Jim Shoulder				
Team Manager		Yusoff Ismail					Team Manager						
Referee		Ricardo Calabria (Argentina)											
Linesman													
Linesman													

Thambiayah Pathmanathan is also shown as Thasmbiayah Pathmanathan.

match report from The Straits Times, 20/10/1984, page 47

It was a night of shame for Singapore soccer when two of their best players - Malek Awab and Rajagopal Suriamurthi - were sacked and three others cautioned by Argentine referee Ricardo Calabria at the National Stadium last night.

To add salt to the wounds, Singapore also failed to reach the semi-finals of the Merlion Cup tournament, losing 1-0 to defending champions Australia before more than 8,000 fans.

The sackings and bookings will not be quickly forgotten. Suriamurthi, recalled from Pahang to beef up the midfield, was the first to be ordered off.

A foul on John Mihailidis in the 81st minute after referee Calabria had earlier shown him the yellow card for an offence against striker Frank Farina caused him to leave the field.

Five minutes later, skipper Malek took a similar path. He lost the ball to Mihailidis, then clipped the surging Australian striker from behind.

The painful contact sent Mihailidis groaning to the ground. Malek himself appeared to be injured. But he staggered to his feet after a few seconds.

By then, the referee Calabria had made up his mind and did not hesitate to flash the red card.

The Singapore skipper protested vehemently, but the referee stood firm. Malek then urged his team to leave the field.

Thankfully, the players managed to pacify him as team manager Yusoff Ismail signalled frantically from the sidelines for him to come off.

The match, though, was not rough. The dubious honour of having the first yellow card went to Australian match winner and sweeper Andrew Bernal in the 42nd minute for an illegal tackle on local striker K.Kannan.

Norhalis Shafik was next. He was cautioned for dissent and this was followed by Razali Saad and Lim Tang Boon before Suriamurthi and Malek received their marching orders.

On the match front, Singapore did not look as of they had the tools to prise open the young Australians' defence. At least, not until they were reduced to nine men.

The only time Singapore gave any hope of a goal was in the fifth minute when Kannan worked himself well on the right flank before sending over a superb grounder across. Malek dummied for Hashim Hosni who wasted the opportunity with a hasty shot.

A minute later, Singapore's defence was caught flat-footed by a Panagis cross. Andrew Bernal happily collected the loose ball and scooped it into the net.

The Aussies, probably planning for only a one-goal lead, blanketed their defence for that.

Singapore were hardly able to get into their penalty area until the 42nd minute when Kannan broke through - only to be brought down by Bernal, who was cautioned for this offence.

After the interval, Bernal gave his bench a scare when he sent a high back-pass to the out-of-position Tony Franken. But the goalkeeper managed to arch backwards in time to stop the ball from crossing the line.

The match dragged on until Suriamurthi's and Malek's sackings. But the tempo picked up again in the last five minutes when Kannan had a chance from five metres. But he hesitated and the chance was lost.

Singapore: David Lee; Lim Tang Boon, Razali Saad, Norhalis Shafik, A.R.J.Mani; Hashim Hosni, T.Pathmanathan, R.Suriamurthi; K.Kannan (Razali Rashid), Tay Peng Kee (D.Tukijan), Malek Awab.

Australia: Tony Franken; Robert Hooker, Howard Tredinnick, Andrew Bernal, Ray Vliestra; Ralph Maier, Alex Bundalo (David Sharpe), Warren Spink (Sean Ingham); Frank Farina, John Mihailidis, John Panagis.

Man of the Match: Andrew Bernal.

Referee: Ricardo Calabria (Argentina).

match report from Soccer Action, Volume 9, Number 39, 24/10/1984, page 4
Against Singapore, Australia took the lead in the 5th minute. Ray Vlietstra headed forward a corner from Mihailidis, it rebounded off a defender, and sweeper Andrew Bernal was there to smash it in from close range.
Two players - Malek Awab and Suriamurthy - were sent off over late tackles on Hooker and Mihailidis.
Details:-
AUSTRALIA 1 (Bernal) SINGAPORE 0.
Australia: Franken; Hooker, Bernal, Vlietstra, Tredinnick; Panagis, Maier, Mihailidis, Bundalo (Sharpe 67th); Farina, Spink.

Merlion Cup, Group 'A'													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
21st. October 1984,			National Stadium, Singapore									10000	
Holland Amateurs..5 v. Australia U-23..2													
half time, Holland Amateurs..1 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Pieter Willemse						GK	Paul Jones				
		Peter de Jongste						DF	John Gregson				
		Rene Versteeg						DF	Andrés "Andrew" Bernal	X(pk)			
		Anno de Kleine	X					DF	Lucas "Aki" Kotzamichalis				
		Freddie Prins	X, X					MF	Andrew "Andy" Koczka				
		Nico Hoogwerf				X		MF	Theo Stamatelopoulos				76
		Jacques Manuputty						MF	David Sharpe				
		Jesús "Chusi" Reglero	17					MF	John Panagis	10			
		Rene "Rob" Meulendijks						FW	Alex Bundalo				
		Johan Neuteboom				X*		FW	Sean Ingham				
		Peter Scheepers	53					FW	Warren Spink				76*
SUBSTITUTES													
		Peter Knoop				X		DF	Ralph Maier				76
		Oege Boonstra				X*		FW	Frank Farina				76*
Team Coach							Team Coach		Jim Shoulder				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Sergio Vasques (Chile)											
Linesman													
Linesman													

Freddie Prins is also shown as Freddie Prinj.

match report from The Straits Times, 22/10/1984, page 29
Even if Australia end up winning the Merlion Cup, nothing is going to change the fact that their record in this competition has been somewhat tarnished.
It happened last night at the National Stadium when the Aussies, champions in the last two years, were soundly beaten 5-2 by Holland.
Both had already qualified for the semi-finals and, since the result had little bearing, the Aussies decided to fiddle with their team.
They left out six first-choice players from their starting line-up, and team manager Jimmy Shoulder announced in the dressing room that his entire back four, and reserve goalkeeper Paul Jones, were playing together for the first time.
Said Shoulder; "I'm not unhappy with the result. I wanted to give the juniors a chance. We are preparing for the World Youth Cup, and if you keep them on the bench, you will never know what they can do."
The Dutch surprisingly, laboured in the first half against the Aussie defence, who made up for their inexperience with loads of determination.
And by the interval the score was 1-1, John Panagis putting Australia ahead after 10 minutes, and Chusi Reglero snatching the equaliser seven minutes later.
Peter Scheepers got Holland's second goal, only to see it erased when Andrew Bernal netted from the penalty spot after a dubious decision by the Chilean referee Sergio Vasques.
But the penalty did more good than harm for the Dutch.
They drew strength from what they and many believed to be a wrong decision on the part of the referee, and hit back with two goals from Freddie Prinj and one from Anno de Kleine.
Australia: Paul Jones, John Gregson, Lucas Kotzamichalis, Andrew Bernal, Andrew Koczka, David Sharpe, Alex Bundalo (Frank Farina), Theo Stamatelopoulos, Warren Spink (Ralph Maier), Sean Ingham, John Panagis.
Holland: Pieter Willemse, Peter de Jongste, Rene Versteeg, Anno de Kleine, Freddie Prinj, Nico Hoogwerf (Peter Knoop), Jacques Manuputty, Chusi Regiero, Rob Meulendyks, Johan Neuteboom (Oege Boonstra), Peter Scheepers.
Referee: Sergio Vasques (Chile).
Man of the match: Freddie Prinj.

match report from Soccer Action, Volume 9, Number 39, 24/10/1984, page 4
Having secured a semi-final berth, Shoulder decided to use all of his under 19 players, apart from Hooker, in the game against Holland.
The gamble almost paid off, as Australia took a 1-0 lead, and then hung onto a 2-2 scoreline before finally crumbling 2-5 in the last 10 minutes.
John Panagis drove a cross from Andrew Koczka into the net in the 10th minute, but Holland equalised seven minutes later when Susi Reglero chipped over goalkeeper Jones.
Peter Scheepers made it 2-1 for Holland after a rebound off a defender in the 53rd minute, but Bernal levelled from a penalty after Anno de Kleine of Holland had floored Sian Ingham.
A Dutch onslaught followed, and Rob Meulendyks hit the post. In addition, Koczka and Theo Stamatelopoulos had to clear shots off the goal line.
Shoulder finally sent on Maier and Frank Farina but they had been on the park for barely a minute, when a goalkeeping mistake by Jones enabled Freddie Prins to score with a header.
DeKleine made it 4-2 with a chip over the wall, and Prins got his second to make it 5-2 in the 83rd minute.
Despite the defeat, Australia still was in high spirits and looking forward to the clash with Iraq.
The other semi-final will be between Holland and South Korea.
Melbourne referee Stewart Mellings was in control of the Korea v. Argentina match, which ended in a 2-2 draw, and his tight control ensured there would be no repeat of the brawls that occurred during the Argentina v. Chile match.
Mellings has figured in five games over eight days - twice in the middle - which is a certain sign that he has been recognised as the top referee in the Cup.
Details:
AUSTRALIA 2 (Panagis, Bernal pen.) HOLLAND 5 (Prins 2, Reglero, Scheepers, DeKleine).
Australia: Jones; Gregson, Kotzamichalis, Bernal, Kocka; Bundalo (Maier 69th), Sharpe, Stamatelopoulos, Panagis; Spink (Farina 69th), Ingham.

The match was a "double header" with South Korea..2 v. Argentina..2

Merlion Cup, Semi-final

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. October 1984,	National Stadium, Singapore			4900

Iraq..1 v. Australia U-23..1 after extra time

half time, Iraq..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Abdul-Fatah Nassif Jassim						GK	Tony Fraken				
	DF	Adnan Dirjal Mutar						DF	Robbie Hooker				
	DF	Khalil Mohammed Allawi						DF	Andrew Bernal				
	DF	Kadhum Mtasjar Hamid				X		DF	Ray Vlietstra				
	DF	Karim Mohammed Allawi						DF	Howard Tredinnick (c)				
	MF	Karim Saddam Menshid						MF	David Sharpe				80
	MF	Natiq Hashim Abid-Aoun						MF	John Mihailidis				
	MF	Jamal Ali Hamza						MF	Ralph Maier				
	FW	Wameedh Munir Yacoub						FW	John Panagis				
	FW	Hussein Saeed Mohammed (c)	116					MF	Sean Ingham				107
	FW	Basil Gorgies Hanna						FW	Frank Farina	109			
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Ahmed Radhi Hmaiesh Al-Salehi				X		DF	John Gregson				80
	MF	Ali Hussein Shihab				X*		FW	Warren Spink				107
	DF	Ghanim Oraibi Jassim Al-Roubai											
		Kadhim Shabib											
		Hamid Abid Noor											
	DF	Samir Shaker Mahmoud											
		Sabah Abdel-Hassan											

Team Coach	Akram Ahmed Jassim	Team Coach	Jim Shoulder
Team Manager	Dr. Abdul-Qadir Zainal	Team Manager	
Referee	Sergio Vasques (Chile)		
Linesman			
Linesman			

PENALTY SHOOT-OUT
Iraq..9 v. Australia U-23..8

		Jamal Ali Hamza	X						Andrew Bernal	X			
		Hussein Saeed Mohammed	X						Frank Farina	X			
		Karim Mohammed Allawi	X						John Panagis	X			
		Ahmed Radhi Hmaiesh Al-Salehi	missed						David Sharpe	X			
		Natiq Hashim Abid-Aoun	X						Howard Tredinnick	missed			
		Khalil Mohammed Allawi	X						John Gregson	X			
		Ali Hussein Shihab	X						Ray Vlietstra	X			
		Kadhum Mtasjar Hamid	X						Robbie Hooker	X			
		Adnan Dirjal Mutar	X						Warren Spink	X			
		Abdul-Fatah Nassif Jassim	X						John Mihailidis	missed			

Abdul-Fatah Nassif Jassim is also shown as Abdul-Fatah Nsaief Jassim, Adnan Dirjal Mutar is also shown as Adnan Derjal, Karim Mohammed Allawi is also shown as Karim Alawe, Natik Hashim Abid-Aoun is also shown as Natiq Abidoun, Hussein Saeed Mohammed is also shown as Hussain Saeed, Basil Gorgis Hanna is also shown as Basil Gewargis or Basil Korkis, and Ahmad Radhi Hmaiesh Al-Salehi is also shown as Ahmed Immaition.

The Straits Times has Kadhum Mtasjar Hamid (also shown as Kadhum Mutashar) as Abdul Kadhum, Wameedh Munir Yacoub (also shown as Wamidh Mounir Yakoub) as Wameed Yakoob.

match report from The Straits Times, 27/10/1984, page 43
It took 19 goals and 120 minutes to separate Iraq and defending champions Australia at the National Stadium last night - and at the end of it all, only a penalty kick deprived the "Socceroos" of a place in what would have been their third successive Merlion Cup final.
The young Australians gave as well as they took from the fancied Iraqis.
But the Socceroos shocked their opponents and the 4,900 spectators - and, perhaps, even themselves - in 90 minutes of normal time which ended gaolless and then led 1-0 (Frank Farina, 109th minute) in the 30 minutes of extra time.
In fact, the Australians also led in the mandatory penalty kicks when Iraq equalised (Hussain Saeed, 116th) to force the shoot-out.
Here is how the penalty shoot-out unfolded….
Andrew Bernal of Australia scores (1-0).
Jamal Hamza of Iraq scores (1-1).
Frank Farina of Australia scores (2-1).
Hussain Saeed of Iraq scores (2-2).
John Panagis of Australia scores (3-2).
Karim Alawe of Iraq scores (3-3).
David Sharpe of Australia scores (4-3).
Goalkeeper Franken of Australia saves off Ahmed Immaition (4-3).
Goalkeeper Fattah Jassim of Iraq saves off Howard Tredinnick (4-3).
Natik Abidoun of Iraq scores (4-4).
John Gregson of Australia scores (5-4).
Khali Allawi of Iraq scores (5-5).
Ray Vlietstra of Australia scores (6-5).
Ali Shihab of Iraq scores (6-6).
Robert Hooker of Australia scores (7-6).
Abdul Khahum of Iraq scores (7-7).
Warren Spink of Australia scores (8-7).
Adnan Derjal of Iraq scores (8-8).
John Mihailidis of Australia hits the crossbar (8-8).
Fattah Jassim of Iraq scores (9-8).
Iraq: Fattah Jassim; Adnan Derjal, Khalil Allwai; Abdul Kadhum (Ahmed Immaition), Karim Alawe, Kerim Minshid, Natik Abidoun, Jamal Hamza; Wameed Yakoob, Hussain Saeed, Basil Gorgies.
Australia: Tony Franken; Robert Hooker, Howard Tredinnick, Andrew Bernal, Ray Vliestra, Ralp Maier, Sean Ingham (Warren Spink), David Sharpe (John Gregson); Frank Farina, John Mihailidis, John Panagis.
Referee: Sergio Vasgues (Chile).
Man of the match: Tony Franken (Australia).

match report from Soccer Action, Volume 9, Number 40, 31/10/1984, page 4
In the semi-finals, Australia absorbed enormous pressure for 90 minutes. Every Iraqi player, with the exception of the stopper, had a shot on target and with one exception, when the woodwork got in the way, Franken was impassable.
And Farina almost stole the match in the last few minutes of normal time when he broke onto a through ball from Howard Tredinnick but had his shot well saved by Iraqi goalkeeper Fattah Nusaif.
But the Australians weren't denied in extra time when a breakaway, engineered by John Panagis, got Farina clear and his superbly angled shot from the left beat Nusaif all ends up.
Iraq levelled 10 minutes from the end of ectra time when Said headed in from a cross by Hussein Shihab.
Bernal, Farina, Panagis and Ralph Maier all converted penalties to put Australia 4-3 up. Then Franken saved from Ahmed Radhi, leaving captain Tredinnick in the position of having to score to clinch the game. The pressure proved too much and Tredinnick's attempt was saved.
Penalties converted by Gregson, Ray Vlietstra, Hooker and Warren Spink carried the Australian to 8-8, then up came Mihailidis, who had been injured late in extra time and had to be carried to the centre circle before the start of the penalty shoot-out.
Nusaif saved Mihailidis's attempt then the Iraqi goalkeeper scored with his attempt and the Aussies were out of the tournament.
The Australian team: Franken; Hooker, Bernal, Vlietstra, Tredinnick; Panagis, Mihailidis, Maier, Sharpe (Gregson 80th); Farina, Ingham (Spink 107th).

Merlion Cup, 3rd - 4th place play-off													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
28th. October 1984,			National Stadium, Singapore										
Holland Amateurs..3 v. Australia U-23..0													
half time, Holland Amateurs..2 v. Australia U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Pieter Willemse				80		GK	Anthony "Tony" Fraken				
		Peter de Jongste						DF	Robert "Robbie" Hooker				
		Rene Versteeg						DF	Lucas "Aki" Kotzamichalis				
		Anno de Kleine	24					DF	Raymond "Ray" Vlietstra				
		Ton Norbart						DF	Howard Tredinnick				
		Fred Prins						DF	Ralph Maier				
		Jesús "Chusi" Reglero	X					MF	John Mihailidis				
		Jacques Manuputty						MF	Theo Stamatelopoulos				65
		Rene "Rob" Meulendijks	28					MF	Andrew "Andy" Koczka				74
		Oege Boonstra				67		FW	Warren Spink				
		Peter Scheepers						FW	Frank Farina				
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Jacob Ree				80		DF	John Gregson				65
		Marius Mathorst				67		FW	Sean Ingham				74
Team Coach							Team Coach		Jim Shoulder				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Sebastian Yap (Singapore)											
Linesman													
Linesman													

match report from The Straits Times, 29/10/1984, page 31
Compared to their gutsy display in the semi-finals against Iraq on Friday, Australia's performance against Holland last night was pathetic, to say the least.
Maybe because it was only for third place in the Merlion Cup.
Still, the Dutch thought enough of it to put their best feet forward before emerging with a 3-0 win.
Frank Farina missed Australia's best chance early in the match when he shot wide with the Dutch defence completely beaten.
Holland's first goal came in the 24th minute when, from a free-kick, Anno de Kleine steered the ball past the Aussie wall, into the corner.
Four minutes later, Rob Meuelendjiks volleyed the ball superbly into the roof of the net.
Tony Franken saved a penalty from de Kleine shortly after the interval, though Holland eventually got their third goal through Chusi Reglero.
Holland: Peter Willemse (Jacob Ree), Peter Jongste, Rene Verteeg, Anno de Kleine, Ton Norbart, Fred Prins, Chusi Reglero, Jack Manuputty, Rob Meuelendjiks, Oege Boonstra (Marius Methurir), Peter Scheepers.
Australia: Tony Franken, Robert Hooker, Howard Tredinnick, Ray Vliestra, Ralph Maier, Theo Stamatelopoulos, Frank Farina, John Mihailidis, Warren Spink, Lucas Kotzamichalis, Andrew Koczka.
Referee: Sebastian Yap (Singapore).
Man of the match: Anno de Kleine.

match report from Soccer Action, Volume 9, Number 40, 31/10/1984, page 4
In the third and fourth place play-off against Holland, the Australians started well with chances created for Farina and Spink but two quick Dutch goals finished the jaded 'Roos. Anno de Kleine scored in the 25th minute from a free kick and Rob Meulendyks added a second four minutes later with a strong shot from the right.
Franken saved a penalty from De Kleine in the second half but the Dutch sealed third place in the 76th minute with a goal from Chusi Reglero.
The Australian line-up: Franken; Hooker, Vlietstra, Kotzamichalis, Tredinnick; Maier, Stamatelopoulos (Gregson 76th), Mihailidis, Kozcka (Ingham); Spink, Farina.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. August 1990,	Priestfield Stadium, Gillingham, England			967

Gillingham (England)..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Gillingham..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Harvey Choun Lim						GK	John Filan				
	DF	Joseph "Joe" Dunne						DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
	DF	Garry Kimble				76		DF	Shaun Murphy				
	DF	Brian Clarke						DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
	DF	Alan Walker				29		DF	Dominic Longo				
	MF	Timothy "Tim" O'Shea						DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	MF	Mark O'Connor						MF	John Gibson				41
	MF	"Mike" Trusson				55		MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				46
	FW	Steve Lovell				76*		FW	George Slifkas		44		
	FW	David Crown				76**		FW	Carl Veart				
		Peter Johnson						FW	John Markovski				
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Peter Beadle				76		MF	Eric Hristodoulou				41
	DF	Ivan Haines				29		DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				46
	MF	Ian Docker				55							
	FW	Peter Heritage				76*							
	MF	Mark Dempsey				76**							

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	David Connon		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from Australian Soccer Weekly, Volume 11, Number 443, 22/8/1990, page 15

The Australian Olympic team, the newly created 'Olyroos', fought out a 0-0 draw against Gillingham in a credible first-up performance on their five-match European tour.

Although their opponents play in the English Fourth Division, coach Eddie Thomson was satisfied with the result.

"A draw is a bonus," he said.

"We had just come across, we had a bit of jetlag - and we hadn't played together before. These are young lads and obviously you must fancy a full-time team of professionals against them."

The Aussies arrived in England 60 hours before the match on the first stage of the tour which also takes in Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland and Czechoslovakia.

The Olyroos had the best of the match against Gillingham but were unable to make their superiority count on the scoresheet.

"Gillingham are a really good side and we had three or four great chances to win the game but we missed our chances and that was a little bit worrying," Thomson said.

Carl Veart had the best chance to win this game when in the five last minutes he won the ball in his own half and ran 60 metres, beating two defenders, only to shoot weakly to the goalkeeper from the edge of the box.

Gillingham keeper Harvey Lim had earlier made an excellent save off a Veart volley at the start of the second half while John Markovski and Steve Refenes, in the first half, both had big scoring opportunities.

The Olympic team's lack of experience also showed early in the game when loose marking let Gillingham players find space in the Australians' penalty area and they were lucky not to go behind.

Tony Vidmar was constantly dangerous overlapping from full-back down the left flank and Dominic Longo and west Australian Shaun Murphy were solid in defence.

Captain and sweeper Ned Zelic was also impressive as was George Slifkas in midfield, although he marred his performance with a yellow card in the 44th minute after twice making late tackles.

AUSTRALIA: Filan, Dickenson, Vidmar, Zelic, Longo, Murphy, Gibson (Hristodoulou 41m), Slifkas, Markovski, Veart, Refenes (Georgakis 46m).

GILLINGHAM: Lim, Dunne, Kimble (Beadle 76m), Clarke, Walker (Haynes 29m), O'Shea, O'Connor, trusson (Docker 55m), Lovell (Heritage 76m), Crown (Dempsey 76m), Johnson.

Referee: David Connon.

Crowd: 967.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. August 1990,	Tannadice, Dundee, Scotland			1779

Dundee United (Scotland)..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Dundee United..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Alan Main						GK	John Filan				
	DF	Mark Perry				X		DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
	DF	David "Dave" Bowman						DF	Shaun Murphy				X
	DF	John Clark	53					DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)	14			
	MF	Scott Kopel						DF	Dominic Longo				
	MF	Neil Duffy						DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	MF	Raymond "Ray" McKinnon						MF	John Gibson				
	MF	Hamish French						MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
	FW	Patrick "Paddy" Connolly						FW	George Slifkas				
	FW	Mika-Matti "Mixu" Paatelainen				X**		FW	Carl Veart				
	FW	Duncan Ferguson				X*		FW	John Markovski				X*
						SUBSTITUTES							
	MF	John O'Neil				X		DF	Peter Murray				X*
	MF	Ian Grant Johnson				X**		FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				X*
	DF	Gary Bollan				X*		DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				
								MF	Eric Hristodoulou				
								MF	Mark Brazzale				
								MF	Gary Hasler				
								GK	Stefano "Steve" Mautone				

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	D.Yates		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Dundee Courier, 20/8/1990
When the talk in football is about the emerging nations the reference is usually to African countries.
Let me post a warning now that in future Australia had better be included.
For those at Tannadice yesterday for the first United home game pre-season, there was good reason to think that a few bob invested now now on these Aussies, all under 23, to play a prominent part in the Olympics in Barcelona in two years' time would not be a bad idea!
Right away it must be said that this was not the full United team, but you couldn't call Main Main, Bowman, Clark, Paatelainen and French exactly inexperienced, yet thje visitors, first half in particular, more than matched their full-time professional opponents.
Outstanding for them throughout was the man who scored the opening goal.
He was 19-year-old skipper Ned Zelic.
He has a Yugoslavian background and hails from Canberra, played with a number four on his back but was the true "libero," mostly defending but never afraid to move forward when the chance presented itself.
And it did in 14 minutes.
Another famous Aussie called Ned (Kelly) used to cause defenders of the law problems by being where he was least expected.
This Ned was where the United defence least expected him - unmarked 35 yards out - when he got the ball. Without hesitation he blasted it past Main, who obviously never expected the shot and was well out of position.
In 53 minutes and with United looking much more lively, centre-half John Clark decided on his own liberto bit. The ball was turned back by Paatelainen and from 20 yards Clark guided it in low at the left hand post.
One thing the visitors will have to watch is their tendency to fend off opponents with their arms and obstruct them with their body. At times they were more like rugby or Australian rules players than footballers.
The strength of Carl Veartes, allied to a neat touch for such a big young man, and pace of forwards John Gibson and Steve Refenes and defender Tony Vidmar worried the United defence but they stuck to their task and, in the final analysis, Main was rarely troubled.
At the other end, John Filan had several great saves, particularly from John O'Neil and Hamish French.
Paddy Connolly earned top marks for United once he opened out second half and John Clark had me wondering why he doesn't produce his second half concentration and command every game.
National coach Eddie Thompson, the former Hearts and Aberdeen defender, who went to Australia in 1977, was rightly proud of his charges and said afterwards that already several British clubs were interested in his players, especially Zelic.
"They aren't bad for part-timers who train three nights a week," he said in a masterly piece of under-statement.
Attendance 1779.
O'Neill, Gary Bollan and Grant Johnson went on for Mark Perry, Duncan Ferguson and Paatelainen. Australia used Mark Brazzale for Dominic Longo and Mike Michalopolous for Carl Veartes.
Dundee United - Main, Perry, Kopel, Bowman, Clark, Duffy, Connolly, McKinnon, Paatelainen, French, Ferguson. Substitutes - O'Neil, Johnson, Lidsay, Bollan, Garden, McLeod.
Australian Olympic XI - Filan, Dickinson, Vidmar, Zelic, Longo, Murphy, Gibson, Slifkus, Markovski, Veartes, Refenes. Substitutes - Georgiakis, Hristodoulous, Brazzale, Murray, Hasler, Michalopolous, Mautone.
Referee: D.Yeats, Perth.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. August 1990,	Altenburg Stadion, Wettingen, Zurich, Switzerland			500

Switzerland U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Switzerland U-21..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Hervé Dumont				46		GK	John Filan				
	DF	Marc Hodel				46*		DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
	DF	René Morf						DF	Peter Murray				46
	DF	Francis Froidevaux						DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
	DF	Régis Rothenbühler						DF	Dominic Longo				
	DF	Pascal Thüler				46**		DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	DF	Daniel Wyss						MF	John Gibson				
	MF	Sascha Reich						MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				72
	MF	Sébastien Fournier						FW	George Slifkas		X		
	MF	André Wiederkehr						FW	Carl Veart				
	FW	Pascal Bezzola				46***		FW	John Markovski				52
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Florent Delay				46		DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				46
	DF	Marco Walker				46*		MF	Eric Hristodoulou				72
	DF	Olivier Biaggi				46**		FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				52
	FW	David Orlando				46***							
Team Coach		Marcel Cornioley					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Föckler (Germany)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

copied from Australian Soccer Weekly Volume 11, Number 444, 29/8/1990 page 12

The Australian Olympic team survived a torrid opening 15 minutes to draw 0-0 with their Swiss counterparts in Wettingen, near Zurich, last Wednesday.

This was the same Swiss team which two weeks earlier had been unlucky to lose 2-1 to the powerful West German Olympians, and coach Eddie Thomson was more than happy with the result.

What started on tour as an inexperienced squad of youngsters has moulded into a cohesive unit which also boasts several first-rate talents, none more so than Ned Zelic, who again stood out.

The Australians remain unbeaten, but so far they have been unable to make the most of their chances in front of goal.

In this game they matched the Swiss in speed and skill but were unable to find the net.

In the opening quarter of an hour it was all Switzerland, whose attacks came in waves.

Good goalkeeping by John Filan and timely tackles by the over-worked Australian defenders, however, helped survive the onslaught and until half-time both teams were on par.

Ten minutes before half-time Australia should have gone ahead but John Markovski, who has yet to live up to expectations so far on tour, managed to blast a header from four metres out wide of the Swiss post.

George Slifkas came perilously close to being sent off, but escaped with a yellow card for "retaliation".

All in all, a good result for Australia against experienced opponents who have tested their mettle many times over against the best Europe has to offer in their class.

Only 500 fans turned up to see the game, which is part of a tour designed to tune the Australian team up for the qualification for the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

Coach Eddie Thomson said after the game: "We probably played better than the Swiss, it was very pleasing. But in front of goal we were dreadful."

"We're missing chances galore. That's the worry but on the positive side we're making the chances. We can solve it."

Australia's final games are against the League of Ireland and the Czechoslovakian Olympic team.

The only real injury problem is West Australian Shaun Murphy, who tore his hamstring against Dundee and was out for the rest of the tour.

AUSTRALIA: Filan, Zelic, Longo, Murray (Georgakis 46m), Dickinson, Vidmar, Gibson, Slifkas, Refenes, Markovski (Michalakopoulos 60m), Veart.

CROWD: 500.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. August 1990,	Dalymont Park, Dublin, Eire			

League of Ireland U-21..2 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, League of Ireland U-21..2 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Tim Dalton (Derry City)						GK	John Filan				50
	DF	Brian Flood (Shelbourne)						DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				60
	DF	Michael "Mick" Neville (c) (Shelbourne)						DF	Peter Murray				80
	DF	Anthony "Tony" McCarthy (Derry City)						DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
	DF	Paul Brady (Dundalk)				52		DF	Dominic Longo				
	DF	Raymond "Ray" O'Halloran (Limerick City)	36					DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	MF	Fergus O'Donoghue (Cork City)				67		DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				
	MF	Patsy Freyne (Cork City)						MF	Eric Hristodoulou				
	FW	Ian Douglas (Drogheda United)				52*		MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				43
	FW	Anthony "Tony" Cousins (Dundalk)	42					MF	Mark Brazzale				
	FW	Vincent "Vinny" Arkins (Shamrock Rovers)						MF	Gary Hasler	21, 69			
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Barry O'Connor (Shamrock Rovers)				52*		GK	Stefano "Steve" Mautone				50
	MF	Neil Poutch (Shamrock Rovers)				52		FW	John Markovski				60
	DF	Curtis Fleming (St.Patrick's Athletic)				67		FW	Carl Veart				80
								MF	John Gibson				43

Team Coach	Jim McLaughlin	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	J.Purcell (Dublin)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Irish Times, 25/8/1990, page 21

Republic of Ireland Under 21 manager Maurice Setters ought to have seen something of interest fro the League of Ireland Under 21 side, as they deservedly drew with their Australian counterparts before a very small crowd at Dalymount Park last night, reports PAUL BUTTNER.

The constant rain and a heavy pitch spoiled the early probings of both sides. The Australians, however, took a deserved lead after 21 minutes when John Hasler, was given a free header from 15 yards following a corner, to send the ball past Tim Dalton. The goal stung the League of Ireland squad into action and they hit back 15 minutes later when Ian Douglas found Ray O'Halloran in space and O'Halloran drove a low shot to the bottom corner of the net from 20 yards.

Three minutes before the interval the Irish side took the lead with a stunning goal by Tony Cousins. Douglas went skipping past his marker down the right to cut in and find Cousins with a low cross and the Dundalk striker turned superbly to drive the ball into the roof of the net from about ten yards.

Cork City full back, Fergus O'Donoghue was stretchered off suffering from slight concussion following a clash with Hasler in the 66th minute and three minutes later Hasler met John Markovski's cross from the right to slide home the equaliser.

LEAGUE OF IRELAND UNDER 21: Dalton (Derry City); Flood (Shelbourne), Neville (Shelbourne), McCarthy (Derry City), O'Donoghue (Cork City); Douglas (Drogheda United), Brady (Dundalk), Freyne (Cork City), O'Halloran (Limerick City); Cousins (Dundalk), Arkins (Shamrock Rovers). Subs - O'Connor and Poutch (both Shamrock Rovers) for Brady and Douglas (52 mins), Fleming (St.Patrick's Athletic) for O'Donoghue (67 mins).

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC XI: Filan; Dickinson, Longo, Georgakis, Zelic, Vidmar, Brazzale, Hristodoulou, Refenes, Hasler, Murray. Subs - Gibson for Refenes (43 mins); Mautone for Filan (50 mins); Markovski for Dickenson (60 mins); Veart for Murray (80 mins).

Referee: J.Purcell (Dublin).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
29th. August 1990,	Stadion FK Hlinsko, Hlinsko, Czechoslovakia			2058

Czechoslovakia U-21..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Czechoslovakia U21..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Norbert Juračka				46		GK	John Filan				
	DF	Martin Kotůlek				46*		DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
	DF	Jan Suchopárek				46**		DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				60
	DF	Jiří Novotný						DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
	DF	Karol Praženica				46***		DF	Dominic Longo		X		
	MF	Miroslav Sovič						DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	MF	Radim Nečas						MF	John Gibson				77
	MF	Martin Obšitník				46****		MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				65
	MF	Radoslav Látal						MF	Gary Hasler		X		65
	FW	Jozef Majoroš	44			59		FW	George Slifkas				
	FW	Jiří Novák.						FW	Carl Veart				68
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Tomás Bernády				46		MF	Mark Brazzale				60
	DF	Ivan Kozák				46*		FW	John Markovski				77
	DF	Martin Pěnička				46**		MF	Eric Hristodoulou				65
	DF	Marián Bochnovič				46***		FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				68
	MF	Michal Petrouš	88			46****							
	FW	Dusan Mášik				59							

Team Coach	Ivan Kopecký	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Mauer		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match from Australian Soccer Weekly, Volume11, Number 445, 3/9/1990, page 12.
Australia's Olympic team completed its five-match tour of Europe with a 2-0 loss to its Czechoslovakian counterpart last Wednesday.
The match, played at Hlinsko, 120kms south of Prague, was the Australians' only defeat on tour after drawing with English side Gillingham, Scottish Premier League team Dundee United, a League of Ireland selection and the Swiss Olympic team.
A last minute decision by Czech Soccer Federation officials to switch the match from Prague to Hlinsko angered Australian coach Eddie Thomson.
"We had to travel by bus for two and a half hours and only got to the stadium 30 minutes before the kick-off and this upset our pre-match preparations," he said.
Czechoslovakia scored a goal late in each half but Australian striker Gary Hasler came close to equalising in the 70th minute when his 20m volley shaved the crossbar.
In a physical game, two Australian players - Hasler and Dominic Longo received yellow cards in the space of one minute in the first half.
But Thomson was not too disappointed.
"This was by far the best team we met on the tour," he said.
"Czechoslovakia is rated amongst the top under 23 teams in Europe and many experts are already them as potential gold medallists at the Barcelona Olympics.
"We competed well with them in defence but found it hard to create openings."
The Australian team for the Czech match was: John Filan, Grg Dickinson, Tony Vidmar, Ned Zelic, Dominic Longo, Steve Georgakis (Mark Brazzale 60th min), John Gibson (John Markovski 77th min), George Slifkas, Carl Veart (Mike Michalakopoulos 68th min), Gary Hasler, Steve Refenes (Eric Hristodoulou 65th min).
Crowd 2500.

match report from Nová Pravda, Volume 1, Number 202, 30/8/1990, page 8 as translated by Karolína Košťálová of the National Library of the Czech Republic.
Last warm-up match prior to Europe´s championship qualification. Australian team presented a typical English emphatic game.
Goals: 44. Majoroš, 88. Petrouš
Referee: Mauer
2058 spectators
Czechoslovak team: Juračka (46. Bernády) - Kotůlek (46. Kozák), Suchopárek (46. Pěnička). Novotný, Praženica (46. Bochnovič) - Sovič, Nečas, Obšitník (46. Petrouš), Látal - Majoroš (59. Mášik), Novák.

1991

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. March 1991,	Bruce Athletics Field, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Australia U-23..4 v. Malaysia U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Malaysia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Stefano "Steve" Mautone						GK	Chong Kim Boon				
	DF	Damian Mori	48, 90						Mohamad Salahuddin Che Ros				
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic							Saziman Ismail				35
	DF	Dominic Longo							Chee Won Hoe				
	DF	Shaun Murphy							V.Thinagaran				
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar							Ong Kim Swee	38		51	
	MF	Eric Hristodoulou							Yap Wai Loon				
	MF	John Gibson				80			Chong King Kong				
	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				71			Lee Thean Ewe				
	FW	Michael Michalakopoulos	60						Azmi Mohamad				70
	FW	Zoran Ilić	35			72			Azman Adnan				
SUBSTITUTES													
	DF	Lorenz Kindtner				80			Ghazala Ismail				35, 81
	DF	Kevin Muscat				71			Edres Selamat				81
	FW	Carl Veart				72			Ahmad Fauzi Ibrahim				70
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Mustakim Omar				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Chris Conti											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from The Canberra Times, 27/3/1991, page 44 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/122351835

Australian soccer coach Eddie Thomson has long worried over the fact his Olympic squad is not getting crucial match practice. Last night's 4-1 win over Malaysia justified his concern.

The Olyroos, as the media has christened the Barcelona hopefuls, improved from an ordinary, even ragged, opening to gradually take charge of the game at the Bruce Athletics Field.

By the final whistle, they were showing signs of becoming the slick machine that will be demanded later this year when they take on New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea for a place in the 1992 finals.

"Michael Michalakopoulos and Zoran Ilic have not really played in the squad before - the whole team was in desperate need of this game," Thomson said afterwards. "But in the second half, they began to knock the ball about and settled in well. If there is one criticism, they were a bit careless around the goal."

One player who will certainly have taken the coach's eye is Australian Institute of Sport youngster Kevin Muscat. Drafted into the squad at the last moment to make up the numbers, he came on in the 71st minute and immediately had an impact on the game. Strong, and with a rugged tackle, he might well have booked his ticket with the Young Socceroos, if not the older Olympic squad.

It was not a happy night for the Malaysians. They had the better of the first half-hour and were still well in the game at half-time, with the score at 1-1. But, when Ong Kim Swee was sent off in the 51st minute for a dangerous tackle on John Gibson, they failed to rise to the challenge of playing with 10 men and the game slipped away from them.

Ong caused the first excitement of the match, with a free kick struck wide of the post and, a minute later, Chong King Kong tried to wriggle past two defenders before being closed down.

Australia was being caught by its opponent's offside trap. But, on one occasion, it did get through, only for Michalakopoulos to appeal unsuccessfully for a penalty after a tackle by Thinagaran.

Goalkeeper Chong Kim Boon was gathering most of the harvest of high balls coming his way. He was finally beaten by a simple flick by Ilic in the 35th minute. Three minutes later, Malaysia was back in the game, when a telling pass by Lee Thean Ewe found Ong. His shot was not hard, almost a miss-hit, but it deceived goalkeeper Steve Mautone and looped into the net.

Two incidents changed the course of the game in the opening minutes of the second half. Defender Damien Mori went on a run from deep inside midfield and unleashed a powerful drive, which could have taken a deflection on its way past Kim Boon.

Ong's sending-off followed and, with his departure, a lot of fire went out of Malaysia's play. Ilic went on a long run, ending in a shot which Kim Boon could only parry. The ball fell to Michalakopoulos who, from an awkward angle, hit it straight back at the grateful goalkeeper.

Michalakopoulos faced no such problem five minutes later, when he surged forward to slip the ball past the advancing Kim Boon.

Substitute Ibrahim Ahmad Fauzi should have done better when he hit his shot over the bar in the closing minutes, but the last act belonged to Australia and livewire defender Mori, whose well-placed shot completed the scoring in stoppage time.

The two teams meet again at Bruce stadium at 7pm tomorrow, with the Malaysians playing Canberra Metro at Deakin Oval on Saturday, then a team drawn from the ACT League, back at the Athletics Field, the following Thursday.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
28th. March 1991,	Bruce Stadium, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			440

Australia..2 v. Malaysia U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Malaysia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	John Filan						GK	Mohamad Kiros Mohamad				
	DF	Damian Mori							Ghazala Ismail				25
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic							Mohamad Salahuddin Che Ros				
	DF	Dominic Longo							Ahmad Fauzi Ibrahim				77
	DF	Shaun Murphy							Chee Won Hoe				
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				71			Lee Thean Ewe				
	DF	Lorenz Kindtner				55			Nik Kamarulzawan Raja				
	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes	85, 88						Abdul Murbin Mokhtar Muba				68
	FW	George Slifkas				55*			Azman Adnan				50
	FW	Carl Veart							Ong Kim Swee				
	FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				41			Chong King Kong				
						SUBSTITUTES							
	MF	Eric Hristodoulou				55			V.Thinagaran				25
	DF	Kevin Muscat				71			Edres Selamat				77
	DF	Milan Blagojevic				55*			Yap Wai Loon				68
	FW	Zoran Ilic				41			Adnan Ibrahim				50
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Mustakim Omar				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Gordon Dunster											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from The Canberra Times, 29/3/1991, page 20 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/122352305

It took just three minutes for Sydney Olympic striker Steve Refenes to transform a night of frustration into joy for the Australian Olympic soccer team yesterday.
The speedy front-man waited until the last five minutes of the game against Malaysia at the Bruce stadium to score two well-taken goals and send national coach Eddie Thomson away moderately happy.
Refenes' efforts cannot completely erase the memory of the mistakes, which went before but, as Thomson pointed out afterwards, most members of his young squad were completing three hard games in five days.
The 2-0 win gives Australia a 2-0 victory in Test series', and some confidence that the team is on target in its Olympic preparations.
For 85 minutes, the Australians were unable to turn almost complete domination into goals, and were showing distinct signs of panic when Refenes struck.
He was unlucky not to have scored a hat-trick. He got the ball into the net in the first half, only to have the effort disallowed by referee Gordon Dunster for a hand ball — a decision disputed by Thomson afterwards.
Then, with time running out, Refenes took a cross on his chest, controlled the ball and coolly volleyed it into the net
Two minutes later, he finished a move instigated by his goalkeeper, John Filan. Filan cleared the ball deep into the Malaysian half, Refenes picked it up, and shot through a bewildered defence for his second.
The first half had brought no reward for much endeavour. Apart from Refenes' effort, Australia came close, when Ned Zelic's long free kick into the penalty area was dropped by goalkeeper Mohamed Kiros - Salahuddin Mohamad, Malaysia's best defender on the night, hacked it clear.
Malaysia did not trouble the Australian defence until the second half, when Abdul Mokhtar broke through, but sweeper Zelic deflected his shot for a corner.
It was a long time coming, but Malaysia played well to contain us until so late in the game, Thomson said.
It was not the best of performances but a couple of the lads stood out. Ned Zelic is a class above everyone else and Damien Mori showed some good touches."
The Australians return to Canberra for another training camp next month, while the Malaysians have matches against NSW League club Canberra Metro on Saturday and the ACT the following Thursday.

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. May 1991,	Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria			766

Australia U-23..4 v. Papua New Guinea U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..4 v. Papua New Guinea U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	John Filan						GK	Simon Ronald				
	DF	Milan Blagojevic							Charlie Api				
	DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis							Eddie Fred				
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic							Nouata Inara				
	DF	Dominic Longo							Beneho Luluwai				73
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				71			Didi Saripa				
	MF	Paul Okon				46			Ian Chris Soweni				
	FW	George Slifkas							Stephen Tika				
	FW	John Markovski	42						Desmond Waku				
	FW	Carl Veart	9, 28, 35						Baxie Warong				
	FW	David Seal							Geno Vevao				73*
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				71			Richard Kareko				73
	FW	Zoran Ilić				46			John Kores				73*
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Paul Soweni				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Barry Tasker (New Zealand)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from The Australian, 20/5/1991, page 19

Before the start of yesterday's Olympic Games men's soccer qualifier, all the jovial talk centred around just how many goals Australia would put past the supposed whipping boys of the weeklong tournament, Papua New Guinea.

When a sweep was started among the local press corps one Melbourne journalist was howled down for predicting a 4-0 scoreline when everyone else had tipped scores of 10-0, 11-1 and even 15-0.

No one was laughing, least of all the Olympic Games team coach Eddie Thomson, when the journalist walked away with the $20 kitty after the Australians struggled to overcome a determined New Guinea side 4-0 at Olympic Park.

A hat-trick from Adelaide City striker Carl Veart and a goal from John Markovski in the first half had everyone wetting their lips in anticipation of an avalanche of goals in the second half.

It did not eventuate as PNG kept Australia, who could not put a foot right towards the end, scoreless.

It was hardly impressive fare from a team variously described during the week as "hot" and "the cream of Australian soccer talent".

That the Australians would win the match was never in doubt, but a whole lot more was expected considering New Guinea had only arrived at 3am on Saturday morning - minus shorts and socks - and had never played together before as a unit.

Indeed, coach Paul Soweni, looking for all the world as if he had won Lotto, stunned the media conference when he revealed the team had only been together for two weeks - hardly a quality preparation for such an important series.

But, judging by the way the two teams performed yesterday, one would have thought the Australians were the ones who had never met each other before.

Certainly, a win is a win in anyone's language, but the young Aussies might well rue the missed opportunity of a healthy for and against record. The other teams in the group - New Zealand and Fiji - now have a sniff of an upset.

Thomson was happy enough to have grabbed a win. He said earlier in the week he would have been satisfied with four of five goals.

He was not, however, happy with the way the team performed and said so in so many words after the game when he had the players behind closed doors. One didn't have to eavesdrop to know Thomson was handing out a right royal roasting.

"You wouldn't be able to print what I said to them (the players)," Thomson said. "There were too many chiefs and not enough indians."

"I was very disappointed. There was no urgency in the second half and some players disappeared and others were not prepared to do the hard work."

"Sure, New Guinea stacked their defence with nine players but we should have been good enough to break them down."

As disappointed as he was, Thomson was at pains to say it is unlikely he will make wholesale changes for the second match with NZ on Wednesday night.

"There won't be too many changes," he said. "It is the attitude problem I have to change. Some players are starting to believe their own press."

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. May 1991,	Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria			1000

Australia U-23..2 v. New Zealand U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. New Zealand U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	John Filan						GK	Michael Utting				
	DF	Milan Blagojevic											
	DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis						DF	Lawrence Fitzpatrick				
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)											
	DF	Dominic Longo											
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	15						Heremaia Ngata				
	MF	Paul Okon	8(pk)										
	FW	George Slifkas											
	FW	John Markovski							Vaughan Coveny				
	FW	Carl Veart				61							
	FW	David Seal											
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				61							

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	Ian Marshall
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Mahendra Singh (Fiji)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Australian, 23/5/1991, page 13

Australia are on course for next year's Barcelona Olympics after beating long time nemesis New Zealand in the second match of the Oceania Olympic Games qualifying series at Olympic Park, Melbourne last night.

The Australians showed vast improvement on their sub-standard 4-0 win against minnows Papua New Guinea last Sunday to overcome the Kiwis 2-0 on a greasy pitch.

Though the match was tinged with controversy, there is no doubt the Australians deserved to win. It was a far more confident display and the scoreline was not a true reflection of their superiority.

While the Kiwis would certainly have legitimate claims over several dubious refereeing decisions last night, they would be hard-pressed to disagree with the general feeling that the young Aussies are an infinitely better equipped outfit in every department.

Two goals inside the first 15 minutes set up Australia's victory, which would have been more convincing had it not been for some lethargic and, at times, erratic finishing in front of goal.

Instead of being kept scoreless in the second half - the second time in two matches - they should have finished with a four or five goal scoreline.

However, all they had to show for their endeavours were Paul Okon's eighth minute penalty and a superb individual goal from Tony Vidmar . . . still good enough to bring a smile to the face of coach Eddie Thomson.

Australia have now won their opening two games of the tournament and will meet Fiji on Sunday before playing the return matches against the same opposition later in the year.

The winner of the series will go on to meet the fifth best placed European side for the right to go to Barcelona.

Thomson was a happier man last night, compared to the one who blasted the team for its inept against New Guinea.

"It was a big improvement on last Sunday," Thomson said. "The boys were more committed and looked confident."

Kiwi coach Ian Marshall did not mince his words and was understandably upset with the performance of Fijian referee, Mahendra Singh.

"We are not happy and will make a complaint through the right channels," Marshall said. "There is no doubt the referee's decisions in the opening 10 minutes probably changed the course of the game."

Television replays showed Marshall had cause for complaint over Singh's decision not to give his side a penalty after Australian captain, Ned Zelic's backpass looked like being intercepted by New Zealand striker Vaughan Coveny.

As he looked like getting to the ball Coveny was upended by Aussie goalkeeper John Filan, but Singh was too far away from the action and waved play on, though his linesman was in a good position to see the incident.

Some seven minutes later Singh was not so kind to the Kiwis when he gave Australia a penalty after Lawrence Fitzpatrick had handled in the box. Okon coolly converted to open the scoring.

Vidmar then showed his class in the 15th minute when he unleashed a thunderbolt 25 metre drive into the left hand corner of the NZ net to give Australia a 2-0 lead.

Australia had many fine performers last night, including midfielder John Markovski - probably our best on the field - Zelic and the brilliant Okon.

Defender Steve Georgakis also contributed with a heroic peformance. He broke a small bone in his left hand early in the second half but refused to go off.

AUSTRALIA 2 (P.Okon 8th min pen, T.Vidmar 15th min) d. New Zealand 0.

Crowd: about 1000.

Referee: M.Singh (Fiji).

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
26th. May 1991,			Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria									1000	
Australia U-23..7 v. Fiji U-23..0													
half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Fiji U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	John Filan						GK	Iosefo Visabotu			71	
	DF	Milan Blagojevic	89						Vineshwar				
	DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				46			Jope Lomu		2	58	
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)											
	DF	Dominic Longo							Shiekh Azem Shaib			4	
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	34										
	DF	Damian Mori				70			Manoj Kumar				
	MF	Eric Hristodoulou											
	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes							Ratu Josefa Masilagi			88	
	FW	John Markovski											
	FW	Michael Michalakopoulos	46(pk), 72(pk)										
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	John Gibson	63, 67, 69			46		GK	Netava Tubuitamana				
	FW	Carl Veart				70							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Danny McLennan				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Ron Gallon (New Zealand)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from The Australian, 27/5/1991, page 16
Australia were forced to adopt jungle survival tactics in yesterday's Olympic Games qualifying soccer match with Fiji.
The Fijians had four players sent off - including goalkeeper Iosevo Visaboto - as the Olympic Socceroos battled to a 7-0 victory.
National coach said he had been worried about his players' safety throughout the 90 minutes.
The win gives the Socceroos a 100 per cent record from their three home games at Olympic Park and puts them in a position to qualify from the Oceania group.
Yesterday's match almost did not run its full course. New Zealand referee Ron Gallon, having shown the red card to the four Fijians, must have been tempted to send off a fifth - substitute goalkeeper Netava Tubuitamana - in the final minute.
Tubuitamana deliberately brought down Steve Refenes in the penalty area and under the laws of soccer, each team must have at least seven players on the park - one a goalkeeper.
"It's the first time I have been in a packed dressingroom before the end of the game," new Fijian coach Danny McLennan said, adding he would attempt to impose some discipline before the return clash in October.
Referee Gallon stamped his authority after just 80 seconds when he booked Jope Lomu for a foul on man-of-the-match Milan Blagojovic.
Two minutes later, Fijian striker Shiek Azeem Shaib was ordered off for striking Tony Vidmar.
It needed a touch of Vidmar opportunism to put the Socceroos on the score-sheet. That came after 33 minutes when captain and sweeper Ned Zelic moved forward and found Blagojovic, whose backheel was blasted home by Vidmar from the edge of the area.
Vineshwar brought down Markovski sfter the interval, although the Fijians argued it was outside the area, and Michael Michalapoulos made no mistake with the spot kick.
Fiji was reduced to nine men in the 58th minute when Jope Lomu received his second yellow card for pushing Longo.
Substitute John Gibson, who replaced defender Steve Georgakis at half-time, then hit a purple patch, hitting a hat-trick in just six minutes.
He made it 3-0 in the 63rd minute from a Vidmar pass, rattled in a rebound after Markovski had a shot blocked on the line and, in the 69th minute, volleyed a Markovski cross in at the far post.
Two minutes later Fijian 'keeper Iosevo Visaboto was shown the red card for punching Michael Michalapoulos - who made no mistake from the spot kick.
Ratu Masilagi was sent off in the 88th minute for a foul on Carl Veart. Blagojovic made it 7-0 a minute from time.

match report from the Australian & British Soccer Weekly
The Australian Under-23 side coasted to its third successive Olympic Games qualifying victory when it trounced pathetic Fiji 7-0 in an extreordinary match at Olympic Park on Sunday.
In what will be remembered as one of the most incident packed internationals at the historic Stadium the Fijians finished the match with just seven players on the field and left the young Aussies to coast to victory.
Australia slammed home six goals after halftime - and missed a penalty to boot - as the Fijians' undisciplined game saw it crumble from Olympic Games contention.
The star of the second half was substitute John Gibson.
The Sydney Croatia youngster, thanks to a hattrick in just six minutes, turned the match on its ear after an indifferent opening 45 minutes from the heavily favoured Aussie side.
The Australian total included two penalties, both from the boot of Michael Michalapoulos, as the Fijian side paid for its frustrated rough house tactics.
The tone of the afternoon was set after just four minutes of play when Shiek Azeem Shaib was sent off after a nasty tackle on Tony Vidmar.
For all their pace and enterprise Fiji, now down to 10 men, was never a chance to make a game of it.

The Australians, led by Vidmar and the imposing John Markovski could have taken the lead at any given time and finally broke through 11 minutes from halftime when Vidmar smacked home the first goal of the match.
Less than 60 seconds after halftime Markovski was fouled by Vineshwar and Michalapoulos scored from the resulted penalty.
The Fijian collapse continued in the 58th minute as Jope Lomu received his marching orders from New Zealand referee Ron Gallon for a second bookable offence.
Gibson, on at the interval, then started his remarkable run with a 63rd minute goal and he followed that up with further successful strikes.
He blasted home Australia's fourth in the 67th minute and grabbed his hattrick two minutes later with a crisp volley from Markovski's cross.
Fijian goalkeeper Visa Bota was the next to earn his marching orders in the 71st minute after he floored Michalapoulos with a textbook round-house right hook.
After treatment the young South Melbourne player made it 6-0 from the penalty spot at his second attempt.
The Fijians suffered the final humiliation two minutes from fulltime when Ratu Masilagi joined his team-mates for an early shower after his second bookable offence and less than 60 seconds later Milan Blagojevic wrapped up the final goal for the home side.
Despite the impressive scoreline Australia could hardly be overly pleased by its efforts over the three-match, eight day, opening round of its Olympic qualifiers.

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
11th. November 1991,	Prince Charles Park, Nadi, Fiji			200

Papua New Guinea U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..5

half time, Papua New Guinea U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Simon Ronald						GK	John Filan				
								DF	Milan Blagojevic	14			
								DF	Shaun Murphy	24			
								DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
								DF	Dominic Longo				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	56			
								MF	John Gibson				
								FW	George Slifkas				
								FW	John Markovski				X
	FW	Hans Gewebing						FW	Carl Veart	13			X*
								FW	David Seal	47			
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				X
								MF	Gary Hasler				X*

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian & British Soccer Weekly, 19/11/1991, page 9
Australia were always in control when they beat Papua-New Guinea 5-0 at Nadi's Prince Charles Park in the first of their three Oceania Olympic qualifiers in Fiji last Monday.
The Australians didn't take long to get off the mark with Carl Veart heading the opening goal in the 13th minute from a John Gibson corner.
One minute later Milan Blagojevic added the second after some sloppy PNG goalkeeping.
The last goal of the first half came in the 24th minute with another header, this time from Shaun Murphy after a fine corner by John Markovski.
Two minutes into the second half, David Seal scored after Markovski got behind the PNG defence and put his cross straight to the unmarked striker.
Tony Vidmar ended the scoring run in the 56th minute when he was left in front of a virtually open goal and tapped the ball in.
PNG showed some good individual skills with several fast breaks but were unable to convert them into scoring chances.
The PNG players were mostly head-and-shoulders shorter than their Australian counterparts.
Australia had a total of 11 shots at goal in the second half.
Australian coach Eddie Thomson said after the game that he was delighted with his team's performance.
"The conditions were not really what we are used to - very hot and the pitch was a bit bumpy," he said of the venue at Nadi in Fiji's dry west.
"But the players used their intelligence to feed long high passes into the penalty area so that the strikers could use their biggest height in heading winners."
AUSTRALIA'S LINE-UP: Filan, Blagojevic, Zelic, Murphy, Longo, Vidmar, Gibson, Slifkas, Markovski, Seal, Veart (Hasler).
SCORERS: Veart 13m, Blagojevic 14m, Murphy 24m, Seal 47m, Vidmar 56m.
CROWD: About 200.

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
13th. November 1991,	Churchill Park, Lautoka, Fiji			1500

New Zealand U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, New Zealand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Michael Utting						GK	John Filan				
								DF	Milan Blagojevic				
								DF	Shaun Murphy				
	DF	Julyan Fallon	78(og)					DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
	MF	Julian Bowden			X			DF	Dominic Longo				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
								DF	Damian Mori				X
								FW	George Slifkas				
								FW	John Markovski				
	FW	Vaughan Coveny	69					MF	Gary Hasler				X*
								FW	David Seal	89			
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				X*
								FW	Carl Veart				X
Team Coach							Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Gopalan Kanna (Fiji)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

The New Zealand squad included the following players:-
Michael Utting (Miramar Rangers), Jason Batty (North Shore United), Lawrence Fitzpatrick (Christchurch United), Jason New (Napier City), Sean Rowland (North Shore United), Matthew Byers (Manurewa AFC), Gary Stone (Hutt Valley United), Mark Atkinson (North Shore United), Kenneth "Kenny" Harlock (Manurewa AFC), Vaughan Coveny (Miramar Rangers), Brian Chrisholm (Waikato United), Thomas Edge (Waitakere City), Julyan Fallon (Christchurch United), Julian Bowden (Christchurch United), Shane Gillies (Waikato United), Malcolm Bourgoise (Nelson United), Craig Ashton (Howick AFC) and Andrew McAllister (Mt.Roskill AFC)

match report from the Australian & British Soccer Weekly, 19/11/1991, page 9
Australian striker David Seal grabbed a last minute goal to secure a 2-1 win over New Zealand at Lautoka last Wednesday and put the side a step closer to the Barcelone Olympics finals.
The Olympic squad came from a goal down late in the second half of a fiery match to take an unbeatable hold on the Oceania qualifying group, but the Aussies were unimpressive. The first half was scoreless, with early yellow cards and a flurry of Australian long shots.
We may have won the Oceania group, but the Australians must improve 500 percent to stand a chance in next year's play-off against a European team yet to be determined.
Australia's John Markovski took command of the midfield and made some powerful shots only checked out by the good work of All Whites goalkeeper Michael Utting.
Australia started to push forward mid-way through the first half and kept the New Zealand defence struggling, especially in the air.
The Kiwis improved towards the end of the half after a nervous start, but it was only good goalkeeping which kept Australia scoreless.
In the 69th minute New Zealand's Vaughan Coveny headed a ball low which bounced past Australian keeper John Filan after a free kick awarded because of a late Australian tackle.
Soon after, Markovski made a powerful long range shot and Kiwi Julyan Fallon mistimed a clearance kick with the ball shooting into his own net.
Seal, the National Soccer League top shot for the past two years, grabbed a crucial winner at the finish, heading home a cross sent past the goal face.
Australian coach Eddie Thomson viewed the result with "much relief".
He said he thought the New Zealanders had played better after they had Julian Bowden sent off.
"They defended well in the first half," Thomson said.
He said Australia had three good chances at goal in the first 20 minutes.
His only criticism of the team was that at times Australia "looked a bit flat".
"There will be miles of improvement," Thomson said.
"I'm quite happy to get this over with."

Olympic Games, Oceania Group, Qualifying round													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
16th. November 1991,			Ba, Fiji							26C			
Fiji U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3													
half time,													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Mark Bosnich				
								DF	Damian Mori				
								DF	Shaun Murphy				
								DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
								DF	Dominic Longo				
								DF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
								MF	John Gibson				X
								MF	Eric Hristodoulou				
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				X*
								FW	Carl Veart	22			
								FW	David Seal	14, 75			
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	George Slifkas				X
								DF	Milan Blagojevic				X*
Team Coach							Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Ken Wallace (New Zealand)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian & British Soccer Weekly
Australia completed their Oceania qualifying duties with an easy 3-0 win over host nation Fiji at Ba last Saturday.
This was their sixth straight win in the series which they finished without tasting defeat, scoring 23 goals and conceding one - to New Zealand last Wednesday.
Striker David Seal netted a brace to complete a record of scoring in each match of the second round.
Seal opened the scoring in the 14th minute when he hit a 20-metre drive into the back of the net and notched his second in the 75th minute with a cheeky chip over the head of the Fijian keeper.
Carl Veart picked up the other Olyroo goal in the 22nd minute when he thundered a 30-metre rocket past the keeper.
Steve Refenes had to be treated at half time for heat exhaustion as the match was played in 26-degree heat and 94 percent humidity.
Aussie coach Eddie Thomason made six changes to the side which had beaten New Zealand 72 hours earlier to give as many players as possible a run.
Mark Bosnich, Greg Dickinson, John Gibson, Eric Hristodoulou, Veart and Refenes were the players brought into the team on Saturday.
In contrast to the first round in Melbourne in May, there was little animostity between the teams and Kiwi referee Ken Wallace had an easy time.
Fijian technical advisor, Scot Danny McLennan, a former national coach of Iran, praised the Australians' performance.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. January 1992,	Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park, New South Wales			13456

New South Wales Xl..2 v. Australia U-23..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Robert "Bob" Catlin				46		GK	John Filan				46
	DF	David "Dave" Barrett						DF	Milan Blagojevic				
	DF	Gary van Egmond						DF	Dominic Longo				
	DF	Robert "Robbie" Wheatley						DF	Shaun Murphy				
	DF	Andrew Callanan				27		FW	Damian Mori				
	MF	Peter Katholos						DF	Kevin Muscat				76
	MF	Gustavo "Gus" Cerro						MF	John Gibson	15			80
	MF	Aytec Genc				78		MF	Eric Hristodoulou				76*
	FW	Manis Lamond				61		FW	David Seal	X			
	MF	Abbas Saad	35, 47					MF	Gary Hasler	46			61
	FW	David Lowe						MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Michael "Mike" Gibson				46		GK	Mark Bosnich				46
	DF	Michael "Mike" Grbevski				27		FW	George Slifkas				76
	DF	George Jolevski				78		DF	George Souris				80
		Brown				61		MF	Greg Dickinson				76*
								MF	Steve Corica				61

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

This game was the curtain raiser for the Australia v. Sweden match.

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 27/1/1992, page 38
In the curtain-raiser last night, the national Olympic (under-23) team needed to survive a few anxious moments before eclipsing NSW 3-2 in an invigorating tussle.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
2nd. February 1992,	Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria			10800

Victoria..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Victoria..1 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Jeff Olver						GK	John Filan				
	DF	David Healy						FW	Damian Mori				85
	DF	Robert Stojcevski				75		DF	Dominic Longo	20, 53			
	DF	Robert Krajacic						DF	Milan Blagojevic				
	MF	Paul Della Rocca						DF	Shaun Murphy				
	MF	Gary Brattan						DF	Kevin Muscat				
	FW	Phil Stubbins		15				MF	Eric Hristodoulou				77
	MF	Goran Lozanovski				75*		FW	George Slifkas		16		
	FW	Kimon Taliadoros	33			38		FW	David Seal				
	FW	Francis Awaritefe						MF	Gary Hasler				60
	FW	Peter Tsolakis				65		MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				66
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Robert Spasevski				75		DF	George Souris				85
	MF	Mark Silic				75*		MF	Greg Dickinson				77
	FW	Andrew Zinni				38		MF	John Gibson				60
	FW	Michael Michalakopoulos				65		MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				66

Team Coach	Tim White	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	John Santa-Isabel		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 13, Number 517, 4/2/1992, page 4

The Australian Olympic team continued it's procession of favourable results against State sides, by defeating Victoria 2-1 at Melbourne's Olympic Park on Sunday.

Preceeding the senior Australian squad's gutsy display against Sweden, the Olyroos looked cool, calm and collected in battling off a physical Victorian outfit.

Victorian coach Tim White had promised a local victory before the game, but he, like all others must tip his hat to what is without doubt a world class under 23 combination.

Defender Dominic Longo of the Newcastle Breakers was the hero for the Olympians with a rare double strike.

Steve Refenes' freekick in the 20th minute found the head of an unmarked Longo who had wandered forward to power home a sweetly timed move.

Kimon Taliadoros, rejected by Australian boss Eddie Thomson at the 11th hour, struck another blow for his inclusion in the Socceroo squad with the equaliser for Victoria in the 33rd minute.

The CCSL's leading marksman finished a move with the outside of his right boot after Premier League player Goran Lozanovski had displayed some impressive lead up work.

The reply was the last touch for the super-sharp Taliadoros who had to leave the field just moments later with a minor groin strain.

Longo who was marking Taliadoros, whilst fellow defensive back Shaun Murphy blotted Frances Awaratife out of the contest, found substitute Andrew Zinni less of a handful and proceeded to make a number of dangerous forays throughout the remainder of the match.

His adventure was rewarded with the match-winner in the 53rd minute, albeit courtesy of a mix-up in the increasingly shaky Victorian defence.

Jeff Olver, racing to clear a floating cross, managed to collide with central defender Paul Della Rocca who was equally intent on forcing a clearance. Their efforts only succeeded in presenting the ball to Longo on the edge of the box, whose left foot drive flashed into the back of the net.

George Slifkas and company, for the Olyroos, continued their domination of the midfield for the remainder of the encounter, which also saw the eventuation of four substitutes for each side.

Paul Souris, Greg Dickinson, John Gibson and Steve Corica all had runs in the green and gold and looked comfortable in holding on for what was in the end a deserved victory.

For Victoria, who most likely have been the Olyroos stiffest State test to date, it was a creditable but potentially costly performance.

Aside from Taliadoros' injury, South Melbourne team-mate Peter Tsolakis looked shaken when substituted after a heavy collision and Preston defender Robert Stojcevski, left the field with what appeared a bad leg injury.

The Olyroos now face a Tasmanian State side, before meeting a as yet unknown European opponent in April in the final obstacle on the road to Barcelona.

On recent performances, the Olyroos without question are poised to bring Australian Soccer it's finest international acclaim yet.

VICTORIA: Olver, Healy, Stojcevski (Spasevski 75m), Krajacic, Della Roca, Brattan, Stubbins, Lozanovsku (Silic 75m), Taliadoros (Zinni 38m), Awaritefe, Tsolakis (Michalakopoulos 65m).

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC TEAM: Filan, Mori (Souris 85m), Longo, Blagojevic, Murphy, Muscat, Hristodoulou (Dickinson 77m), Slifkas, Seal, Hasler (Gibson 60m), Refenes (Corica 66m).

SCORERS: Longo 20th and 53rd minutes for Australian Olympic Team, Taliadoros 33rd for Victoria.

YELLOW CARDS: Stubbins 15th minute for Victoria, Slifkas 16th minute for Australian Olympic Team.

REFEREE: John Santa-Isabel.

CROWD: 10,800 (Part of double-header).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. April 1992, 19.00	Pluim Park, Lisarow, New South Wales			10000

Central Coast Coasties..2 v. Australia U-23..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Jason Holmes					1	GK	John Filan				
2		Ashley Grant					3	DF	Dominic Longo				
3		Paul Corbett					4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
4	MF	Mark Drysdale					5	DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				
5		Gary Chapple					2	MF	Gregory "Greg" Dickinson				
6		Dale Eggleton (c)					6	MF	Elias Augerinos				
7		Andrew Sharpe					7	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				
8		Paul Roberts					8	MF	Eric Hristodoulou				
9		Jason Gribble					10	MF	John Gibson				
10		Andrew Ollier	X				9	FW	David Seal				
11		Mark Currow					11	FW	John Markovski				
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Bruce James						GK	Zeljko Kalac				
12	FW	Rod Brown	X			X	12	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
13		Steve Barany					13	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
14		Damon Cronshaw					14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
15	DF	Andrew Clarke					15	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
16		Andrew Eslick					16	MF	Jason Falzon				
17		Darryl Harvey											
19		Mark Gribble											
Team Coach		Bruce James					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Rob Davies											
Assistant Referee 1		Dennis Bartlett											
Assistant Referee 2		Barry Ross											

details from the official NSW Soccer Federation Team Sheet; following a conversation with Dale Eggleton he stated that all players had game-time.

match report from the Gosford Star, 24/4/1992 by Kevin Best
The attendance figure at Pluim Park was broken on Wednesday night when the Australian Olympic Games soccer team scored a thrilling 3-2 over their Central Coast opponents.
More than 3000 soccer enthusiasts packed the ground to witness an entertaining clash with the Central Coast side acquitting itself commendably.
Although it was only an exhibition match, play was close and keenly contested and provided the ideal preparation for the Australians who meet Holland to decide who will qualify for this year's Olympic Games.
Australian coach Eddie Thomson heaped praise on the organisers adding that he will return to the coast with his Australian Socceroos combination.
"The response was outstanding and I certainly will come back again," he said.
A likely date for the return visit is May and the Australian side will comprise players such as Frank Farina and Graham Arnold.
Thomson also paid tribute to the work done by Central Coast coach Bruce James, the man largely instrumental in arranging the match.
Wednesday's game also herald the Central Coast debut of the highly rated Rod Brown who came on as a substitute and scored the best goal of the match.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
3rd. May 1992, 15.00	Civil Stadium, Iri, Korea Republic			18012

Korea Republic U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Korea Republic U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
19	GK	Shin Bum-Chul					1	GK	John Filan				
5	DF	Kang Chul					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
17	DF	Lee Lim-Saeng					6	DF	Stavros "Steve" Georgakis				46
3	DF	Lee Moon-Seok					4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
2	DF	Na Seung-Hwa (c)					3	DF	Dominic Longo				
7	MF	Kim Gui-Hwa					5	DF	Shaun Murphy				
8	MF	Noh Jung-Yoon	52			81	7	DF	Lorenz Kindtner				85
6	MF	Shin Tae-Yong	21(pk)			84	10	MF	Gary Hasler				73
10	FW	Jung Jae-Kwon					8	FW	George Slifkas				
11	FW	Seo Jung-Won				68	9	FW	David Seal	50			
9	FW	Gwak Kyung-Keun					11	FW	John Markovski				
SUBSTITUTES													
14	DF	Jung Kwang-Seok				81	16	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				46
4		Han Jung-Gook				84	15	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				73
12	FW	Cho Jung-Hyun				68	14	MF	John Gibson				85

Team Coach	Kim Sam-Rak	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Lee Sang-Yong (South Korea)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Jung Jae-Kwon is also shown as Chung Jae-Won. Jung Kwang-Seok is also shown as Chung Gwang-Seok. Gwak Kyung-Keun is also shown as Kwak Kyung-Geun.

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 4/5/1992, page 44
Australia's Olympic team fell to a 2-1 defeat against their South Korean counterparts in an exhibition match today.
South Korean midfielder Noh Jung-yoon scored the winning goal in the 52nd minute with a 30m free kick.
The South Koreans had taken an early lead when midfielder Shin Tae-yong scored in the 20th minute from a penalty after a foul by Australian goalie John Filan.
Australian forward David Seal equalised in the 50th minute with a left-foot shot.
With 10 minutes left, the visitors missed an easy chance after Seal found Steve Refenes.
South Korea have already qualified for the Barcelona Olympics, while the Australian team needs to beat the Netherlands in qualifying matches that begin on May 17.
Today's game in Iri, about 200km south of Seoul, was the first of two tune-up matches. The second is on Tuesday in Pyongtaek.
Despite occasional defensive problems, the South Koreans outperformed the Australians.
But centre-back Dominic Longo was sure Australia would win on Tuesday.
"The winning goal was cracked from a long way out from a free kick and there was nothing we could do about that," he said.
"And their first goal came from a penalty. It wasn't as though they broke through our defence, which played well throughout the game."

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
5th. May 1992, 15.00	Pyeongtaek Stadium, Pyeongtaek, Korea Republic			

Korea Republic U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Korea Republic U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal	Yellow	Red Card	Time of	No.	Position	Name	Goal	Yellow	Red Card	Time of
START LIST													
1	GK	Kim Bong-Soo					1	GK	John Filan				
5	DF	Kang Chul					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
17	DF	Lee Lim-Saeng				X	4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
2	DF	Na Seung-Hwa (c)				X*	3	DF	Dominic Longo				
14	DF	Jung Kwang-Seok				X**	5	DF	Shaun Murphy			70	
7	MF	Kim Gui-Hwa					7	DF	Lorenz Kindtner				
13	MF	Kim Do-Geun						MF	Eric Hristodoulou				
16	MF	Cho Jin-Ho				X****	10	MF	Gary Hasler				
12	FW	Cho Jung-Hyun				X***	14	MF	John Gibson	28			
10	FW	Jung Jae-Kwon	87				15	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
9	FW	Gwak Kyung-Keun			70		16	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
SUBSTITUTES													
3	DF	Lee Moon-Seok				X							
6	MF	Shin Tae-Yong				X*							
8	MF	Noh Jung-Yoon				X**							
11	FW	Seo Jung-Won	84			X***							
4		Han Jung-Gook				X****							
Team Coach		Kim Sam-Rak					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

Kim Do-Keun is also shown as Kim Do-Geun.

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 6/5/1992, page 58
Australian Olympic squad player Shaun Murphy was sent off as the touring side slumped to a 2-1 defeat against their South Korean counterparts in an ill-tempered clash today.
Two goals in the final six minutes gave the South Koreans victory at Pyongtaek, 80km from Seoul.
Murphy was given his marching orders 25 minutes into the second half, along with South Korea's Kwak Kyung-kun after the pair had kicked each other.
The Australian players were "hacked and mauled" by the South Koreans in the second defeat of their tour, according to coach Eddie Thomson.
"I'm afraid all the kicking was done by the Koreans," Thomson said after the game.
"Shaun was on the ground and this fellow just ran up and kicked him. I couldn't believe it when the referee sent Murphy off."
Thomson said the Koreans resented Australia's close marking in the first match, also won 2-1 by the home side, and had come out to "even things up" at Pyongtaek.
The Australians, who face Holland in the first of their Olympic qualifiers in Sydney on May 17, emerged from the battle relatively unscathed.
The only major injury worry was goal-scorer John Markovski, who damaged an ankle, but Thomson said the big Marconi striker would recover quickly.
David Seal, who sat out today's game, had fluid drained from his ankle and is expected to be right for the Holland match.

Olympic Games Qualifying - OFC / UEFA play-off 1st. leg				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. May 1992,	Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park, New South Wales			18784

Australia U-23..1 v. Netherlands U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Netherlands U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	John Filan						GK	Edwin Zoetebir				
	DF	Milan Blagojevic						DF	Mitchell van der Gaag				75
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	25	X				DF	Robert Roest				
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic						DF	André Karnebeek				
	DF	Dominic Longo						DF	Arthur Numan (c)				
	DF	Shaun Murphy	49(og)					MF	Robertus "Rob" Maas				
	DF	Lorenz Kindtner				59		MF	Dean Gorré				88
	MF	Paul Okon				71		MF	Ronaldus "Ronald" de Boer				
	MF	Gary Hasler						MF	Phillip Cocu				
	FW	Zlatko Arambašić						FW	Marc Overmars				
	FW	Damian Mori						FW	Erik Meijer				
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				59		DF	Dirk Heesen				75
	FW	George Slifkas				71		DF	Marco van Hoogdalem				88

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	Nol de Ruiter
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Shizuo Takada (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 18/5/1992, page 48

Barcelona may have slipped over the horizon, but a defiant national coach Eddie Thomson insists the Olympic Games are not out of sight after the Australian under-23 team's 1-1 draw against the Netherlands at the Sydney Football Stadium yesterday.

The result did the Olyroos no favours and they must now win the return leg in the Netherlands next Sunday, or at the very least manage a draw, in order to keep alive their slim hopes of qualifying for the Barcelona Games.

There were few observers among the almost 19,000 fans prepared to support such hopeful ambitions, but it was no surprise that Thomson was not among the doubters.

"This tie is a long way from being over, believe me," he said.

"I reckon it's even-money. I'll tell you one thing, I'm sure we can get a goal over there."

Yet, as away goals count double in these two-legged contests, there can be little argument that the Dutch are now in the driving seat thanks to this 1-1 result. With as many as eight first-choice players due to rejoin the squad for the return match at Utrecht, it is difficult to see how the team regarded by many as gold medal favourites will squander its hard-won advantage.

But it may be that the Olyroos, with a more inspired contribution from the midfield and more precision in front of goal, can spring a surprise away from home next Sunday.

The picture yesterday would have been much rosier but for the fateful incident early in the second half which swung the pendulum back in favour of the visitors. An inswinging corner from the right by Marc Overmars was aimed at the near post and the head of fullback Rob Roest. Instead, the ball flicked off the crown of Australian defender Shaun Murphy - who was jumping with Roest - and into an unguarded area of the net.

Thomson later labelled the goal "stupid", and a lack of communication between Murphy and Milan Blagojevic - who would normally have been guarding the front post - proved immensely costly. The goal damaged the morale of the Olyroos to such an extent that they were in danger of being completely overrun for much of the second half.

"It [the goal] flattened our guys," Thomson said.

"We lost our shape, and we started playing some silly stuff with players wandering all over the park. It was only in the last 15 minutes or so that we started coming forward again."

Australia managed the start they wanted in the 25th minute when full back Tony Vidmar, who finished all square in his absorbing tussle with the quick and agile Overmars, got the better of his winger, bringing down a free kick from Ned Zelic and turning inside to fire a shot through a crowd of players and under the arms of goalkeeper Edwin Zoetebir.

To build on that foundation, the Olyroos needed to get a grip in midfield, but neither the half-fit Paul Okon nor the surprisingly listless Lorenz Kindtner could keep up with the pace of the game.

The Dutch, with a two-man advantage in the middle, gradually overcame the setback and slowly began to assert their authority through the excellent Dean Gorre, who until he was rested two minutes before the end was unquestionably the best player on the park.

Without a forceful presence in midfield, the service to strikers Gary Hasler and Zlatko Arambasic deteriorated after a promising start, and for much of the second period there was little pattern, or method, to the Australian play. Only some fine goalkeeping from John Filan, and sterling defensive work by Dominic Longo, prevented the Dutch from adding a second goal.

To resurrect their slim hopes, the Olyroos will need a more positive display from Zelic - who rarely ventured forward in his customary style - and far more influence from Okon, who was a sad and dejected figure when he was prematurely withdrawn after a selection gamble which did not pay off.

For the return game, the Dutch will have to do without defender Mitchell van der Gaag, who seriously damaged his knee when he fell awkwardly in a pot hole.

The Australians will leave squad members Zeljko Kalac, Kevin Muscat, Eric Hristodoulou and Steve Corica behind when they depart today, but will welcome back Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich in Utrecht.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Vidmar) drew with THE NETHERLANDS 1 (Murphy own goal).

Crowd: 18,784.

Olympic Games Qualifying - OFC / UEFA play-off 2nd. leg

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. May 1992,	Stadion Galgewaard, Utrecht, Netherlands			

Netherlands U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..2 after extra time

half time, Netherlands U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Edwin Zoetebir						GK	John Filan				
	DF	Errol Refos						DF	Milan Blagojevic				
	DF	Robert Roest						DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
	DF	André Karnebeek						DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic	43, 113			
	DF	Arthur Numan (c)	104					DF	Dominic Longo				
	DF	Michel Kreek				46		DF	Shaun Murphy				
	MF	Dean Gorré						MF	John Gibson				71
	FW	Gaston Taument						MF	Paul Okon				
	FW	Erik Meijer						MF	Gary Hasler				62
	FW	Max Huiberts				40		MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
	FW	Marc Overmars						FW	Zlatko Arambašić				
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Phillip Cocu				46		FW	Carl Veart				71
	MF	Ronaldus "Ronald" de Boer	65			40		FW	George Slifkas				62

Team Coach	Nol de Ruiter	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 25/5/1992, page 48

Two tremendous goals by captain Ned Zelic have helped Australia qualify for the finals of the Olympic Games soccer tournament in Barcelona in July.

Australia and the Netherlands drew 2-2 in the Olympic qualifying play-off at Utrecht, in the Netherlands, early today after the match had gone into extra-time.

Zelic opened the score for Australia in the 43rd minute but the Dutch equalised through Rob De Boer in the 65th minute.

The Netherlands took the lead one minute before the end of the first period of extra-time when captain Arthur Numan eluded the defence, but Zelic ensured victory for Australia with a superb angled shot one minute before the end of extra-time.

Australia won the match five-four on the away goals rule.

The Olyroos grabbed the lead two minutes from half-time when winger Steve Refenes played the ball square to Zelic, who ran 20m into the penalty area and angled the ball past the Dutch keeper.

The Australians had the better of the play in extremely hot conditions, taking the attack to the Dutch in the last 20 minutes.

The Netherlands had a good chance in the 28th minute when they broke quickly into attack but Numan hit the ball high from in front of the Australian goal.

Australia had taken the initiative from the start, looking far more composed than their effort in the 1-1 draw in Sydney last Sunday.

The Dutch defence was unsettled by the fierce tackling of the Olyroos and the long throws from Paul Okon which kept the defence on the backfoot.

Australia had good chances in the 7th and 20th minutes from Zlatko Arambasic but the best effort came from Gary Hasler 15 minutes from the break.

A long throw from Paul Okon was headed by Arambasic to Hasler, lurking on the edge of the penalty area and his crashing drive smashed into the upright and bounced back into play.

The Dutch appeared more tentative in attack than in Sydney, despite making three team changes, and the Australian defence was untroubled to cut out their goal attempts.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Ned Zelic 43rd, 119th minutes) drew with HOLLAND 2 (Rob de Boer 65th, Arthur Numan 104th). Australia wins 5-4 on away goals rule and qualifies for Olympic Games finals.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
1st. July 1992,	Dusseldorf, Germany			

Fortuna Dusseldorf (Germany)..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	John Filan				
								DF	Milan Blagojevic				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
								DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
								DF	Dominic Longo				
								DF	Shaun Murphy				
								MF	Gary Hasler			20	
								FW	Damian Mori				X
								FW	George Slifkas				
								FW	David Seal				X*
								FW	John Markovski				X**
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	John Gibson				X
								FW	Carl Veart				X*
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				X**

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 3/7/1992, page 35
Australia's Olympic team lost their opening warm-up match 2-0 against German Bundesliga side Fortuna Dusseldorf.
"But the boys played relly well considering they'd only arrived in Europe the day before the match," coach Eddie Thomson said from Arnhem in Holland where the team has their European base.
Melbourne striker Gary Hasler was sent off after 20 minutes for elbowing an opponent.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
4th. July 1992,	Olympic Training Centre Papendal, Arnhem, Netherlands			

Kuwait U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..4

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK						20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
							2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
							3	DF	Dominic Longo				
							4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
							5	DF	Shaun Murphy				
							6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	10			
							7	MF	John Gibson	15			X
							14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				X*
							10	FW	George Slifkas				
							13	FW	Carl Veart				
							12	FW	Damian Mori	35, 70			
SUBSTITUTES													
							16	FW	David Seal				X
							11	FW	John Markovski				X*

Team Coach	Walmir Lourouz	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Kuwait squad was:-
Goalkeepers: - Falah Al-Majidi, Khaled Al-Fadhli.
Defenders: - Osama Abdullah, Ahmad Haji, Meshal Al-Anzi, Mohammad Al-Khaledi, Nawaf Al-Dhafairi, Yousif Al-Dakhi, Hamad Al-Eisa, Sami Al-Lanqawi, Salamah Al-Enizi.
Midfielders: - Husain Al-Khudhari, Mansour Mohammad, Abdullah Saihan, Fawaz Al-Ahmad, Muhammad Ben Hajji.
Forwards: - Fahed Marzouq, Ali Al-Hadyah, Thamer Al-Enizi, Jasem Al-Huwaidi.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
8th. July 1992,	Olympic Training Centre Papendal, Arnhem, Netherlands			

Borussia Dortmund (Germany)..0 v. Australia U-23..4

half time, Borussia Dortmund..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Mark Bosnich				
								DF	Milan Blagojevic				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
								DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic	X			
								DF	Shaun Murphy				
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
								FW	George Slifkas				
								FW	John Markovski				46
								FW	Zlatko Arambašić	X			46*
								FW	Damian Mori				46**
								FW	David Seal				
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney	X			46
								MF	Gary Hasler				46*
								MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica	X			46**

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 9/7/1992, page 40

Australia's Olympic team continued its strong build-up to the Barcelona Games with a 4-0 win over German first division team Borussia Dortmund in Arnhem.

Australian captain Ned Zelic, who is likely to start a European career with the German club next season, began the Olyroo charge when he found the net for the opening goal early in the first half.

Striker Zlatko Arambasic quickly followed suit to give the Australian under-23 side a 2-0 lead at half-time.

The second half went much the way of the first, with Steve Corica and then Brad Maloney continuing the Australian scoring spree.

The German team contained mostly reserve grade players but provided excellent opposition.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. July 1992,	Olympic Training Centre Papendal, Arnhem, Netherlands			

Valenciennes FC (France)..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Valenciennes FC..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	John Filan				
								DF	Milan Blagojevic				
								DF	Dominic Longo				
								DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
								DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
								MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
								MF	Paul Okon				
								MF	Gary Hasler				X
								FW	David Seal				46
								FW	Damian Mori				46*
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Zlatko Arambašić				46
								MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				46*
								FW	John Markovski				X

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sun-Herald, 12/7/1992, page 84

Australia's Olympic soccer team had a solid final workout before heading to the Barcelona Games when it drew 0-0 with French first division side Valencienne.

The Australian under-23 side never looked like losing against the newly promoted Valencienne, expected to struggle this season in France's top league.

Olyroos team official Jim Freeman said the Australians had at least six real chances to score, compared with the opposition's one.

Freeman said attacking right-back Milan Blagojevic from Marconi was probably the best player on the field, although Olyroos captain Ned Zelic put in his usual dependable game in defence.

Strikers David Seal, Zlatko Arambasic, and Steve Refenes also played well.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
23rd. July 1992,	Barcelona, Spain			

Paraguay U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Paraguay U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK						1	GK	John Filan				46
							2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				46*
							3	DF	Dominic Longo				
							4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				46**
							5	DF	Shaun Murphy				46***
							6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
							8	MF	Paul Okon				
							18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				46******
							14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				46*******
							10	FW	George Slifkas				46****
							9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				46*****
SUBSTITUTES													
							7	MF	John Gibson				46*******
							11	FW	John Markovski				46***
							13	FW	Carl Veart				46******
							15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				46**
							16	FW	David Seal	X, X			46*****
							17	MF	Gary Hasler				46****
							19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				46*
							20	GK	Mark Bosnich				46

Team Coach	Serio Markarián	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Paraguay squad included the following players:-
Goalkeepers - Rubén Ruiz Diaz, César Velasquez Defenders - Osvaldo Peralta, Juan Ramon Jara, Celso Ayala, Carlos Gamarra, Arsenio Benitez, Juan Marecos, Ricardo Sanabria, Francisco Arce
Midfielders - Andrés Duarte, Hugo Sosa, Guido Alvarenga, Héctor Sosa, Harles Bourdier Forwards - Francisco Ferreira, Gustavo Neffa, Julio César Yegros, Mauro Caballero, Jorge Luis Campos

Olympic Games finals, Group stage, Group D													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
26th. July 1992, 19.00			Estadio Nova Creu Alta, Sabadell, Spain									4000	
Ghana U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Ghana U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Anthony Mensah					1	GK	John Filan				
2	DF	Frank Amankwah		19			4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
3	DF	Isaac Asare					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
13	DF	Sammi Adjei					3	DF	Dominic Longo		27		
4	DF	Mohammed Gargo	15			60	5	DF	Shaun Murphy				
5	MF	Joachim Yaw Acheampong					6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	90+1			
8	MF	Nii Odartey Lamptey					8	MF	Paul Okon				58
11	MF	Samuel Ablade Kumah (c)				53	14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
15	MF	Bernard Aryee					12	FW	Damian Mori				
9	FW	Kwame Ayew	80, 90				10	FW	George Slifkas		63		
17	FW	Maxwell Konadu					9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				46
SUBSTITUTES													
6	MF	Alexander "Alex" Nyarko					7	MF	John Gibson				
7	MF	Oli Rahman					11	FW	John Markovski				
10	MF	Shamo Quaye					13	FW	Carl Veart				
12	DF	Samuel Osei Kuffour				60	15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
14	DF	Mohammed Dramani Kalilu					16	FW	David Seal				46
16	GK	Simon Addo					17	MF	Gary Hasler				
18	FW	Yaw Preko				53	18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				58
19	FW	Mamood Amadu					19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				
20	GK	Ibrahim Dossey					20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
Team Coach		Sam Arday					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Ali Bujsaim (United Arab Emirates)											
Assistant Referee 1		Lunnart Sundqvist (Sweden)											
Assistant Referee 2		Park Hae-Yong (Korea Republic)											

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 28/7/1992, Olympic Extra page 2 by Michael Cockerill

Luck, such a precious commodity at the highest level, will need to turn Australia's way if the Olyroos are to resurrect their medal hopes after the demoralising 3-1 loss to Ghana in their opening match of the Olympic tournament last night.

Up against the fast and skilful Mexicans in their second match at the Sarria Stadium tomorrow night, only victory will be sufficient if the Olyroos are to keep alive their seemingly forlorn hopes of progressing to the quarter-finals.

Coach Eddie Thomson, clearly dejected by both the result and the manner of the loss at Sabadell, will make two changes to his starting line-up against Mexico - replacing regular goalkeeper John Filan with his understudy, Mark Bosnich of Aston Villa, and bringing in goalsneak David Seal in place of Belgian-based professional Zlatko Arambasic.

"A point won't be enough, we've got to get ourselves out of this position the hard way," said Thomson. "Half the battle will be a mental one, if the players produce the same standard they produced against Ghana then the odds are that this time the chances will go in."

Two victories from their remaining matches against Mexico and Denmark will be still enough for Australia to qualify for the quarter-finals, and there was enough evidence in the loss to Ghana to suggest such a scenario may not be wildly optimistic.

Certainly the common observation at the Stadio Nova Creu Alta was that Australia did not deserve to lose against the Africans, let alone by the 3-1 margin.

Wretched luck saw Ghana defender Mohammed Gargo open the scoring from a rather tame free-kick which deflected off Arambasic and wrong-footed Filan on its way into the net, and then the Africans increased their lead in the 81st minute when another harmless shot from Kwame Ayew took a dreadful bounce just in front of Filan and passed over the hands of the disbelieving goalkeeper, who put his head in his hands.

Between those two goals the Olyroos largely dominated the pattern of the game, and created most of their best openings in the process.

Indeed apart from a five-minute flurry early in the second half when substitute Yaw Preko rattled the crossbar with a fierce shot and then Tony Vidmar cleared off the line, from the resultant corner the Ghanians were happy to squander territory in order to ration their energy in the stifling humidity.

"We played the game our way, we let them come at us and then relied on the counter-attack," coach Sam Arday said afterwards

"I thought our tactics neutralised the Australians, as the result shows."

There were plenty of others, however, who believed the Ghanians may have used up their full quota of good fortune already.

Denmark national coach Richard Moller-Nielsen, on a spying mission for his under-23 team, reflected the view of many.

"As a neutral observer, I thought Australia made the game and made the chances, but couldn't take advantages of them," he said.

"Australia had no luck with the first two goals, but that is the way of football."

"From a Danish point of view I think Australia will be more difficult to beat, but I think we all like the way Ghana play the game, the way they use the ball."

The Olyroos will certainly have to use the ball with better effect if they are to make a comeback from what looks to be a hopeless position.

Boosted by their almost total dominance over Ghana in the air, the Australians relied on an aerial bombardment rather than careful, structured play through the middle. Playmaker Paul Okon, clearly the outstanding player for Australia before a slight hamstring twinge forced him off the park, showed how constructive he can be, but needs more support.

Against the Mexicans tomorrow the decisive contribution will rest with skipper Ned Zelic, who had one of his poorest games in memory against Ghana, and fullbacks Vidmar and Milan Blagojevic, who failed to add enough penetration down the flanks.

These three players have been the cornerstone of a successful qualifying campaign, and their collective loss of form hurt Australia badly last night.

Seal, whose header back across goal set up Vidmar for the consolation goal against Ghana, looks primed to provide the goals which would make all the difference against Mexico.

Olympic Games finals, Group stage, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
28th. July 1992, 21.00	Estadi de Sarriá, Barcelona, Spain			10000

Mexico U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Mexico U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	José Alberto Guadarrama Montecillo					20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
4	DF	Alberto Macías Hernández		80			4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
3	DF	Manuel Vidrio Solís					3	DF	Dominic Longo				
2	DF	Ricardo Cadena Martínez					5	DF	Shaun Murphy				
6	MF	Joaquín Hernández García					6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
7	MF	José Augustín Morales Mota				50	2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
5	MF	Silviano Delgado Valladolid					14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes		28		
8	MF	José David Rangel Torres		52			18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				46
10	MF	Jorge "Tote" Castañeda Reyes (c)	64				12	FW	Damian Mori		50		
9	FW	Francisco Rotllan				75	9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić	19			78
11	FW	Damián Álvarez Arcos					10	FW	George Slifkas				
SUBSTITUTES													
12	GK	Miguel de Jesús Fuentes Razo					1	GK	John Filan				
13	DF	Camilo Romero Mora					7	MF	John Gibson				
14	DF	Carlos López de Silanes					8	MF	Paul Okon				
15	MF	José Eduardo Pavez López					11	FW	John Markovski				
16	FW	Mario Alberto Arteaga Herrera				50	13	FW	Carl Veart				46
17	FW	Pedro Pineda Deras				75	15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
18	FW	Ángel Lemus Silva					16	FW	David Seal				78
19	FW	Ignacio Vázquez Barba					17	MF	Gary Hasler				
20	GK	Ángel Francisco Maldonado Gastélum					19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				

Team Coach	Óscar Iparraguirre	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Kiichiro Tachi (Japan)		
Assistant Referee 1	Abdel-Magid Hassan (Egypt)		
Assistant Referee 2	Lennart Sundqvist (Sweden)		

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 30/7/1992, Olympic Extra page 2 by Michael Cockerill

Even victory over Denmark in their final group game in Zaragoza tomorrow may not be enough to save the Olyroos from oblivion after they failed to do justice to their talents in a scrappy 1-1 draw against Mexico at the compact Sarria Stadium here last night.

Desperately needing a win to give themselves a realistic chance of making it to the quarter-finals, Australia toiled hard but patently lacked finesse against the technically adept Mexicans, who might easily have won if their shooting had not been woefully below par.

A 19th-minute goal from striker Zlatko Arambasic, swept past the oncoming goalkeeper Jose Guadarrama after a delightful through pass from Milan Blagojevic had given the Olyroos the lead after 19 minutes.

Mexico, however, snatched the equaliser they deserved when dangerous forward Jorge Castaneda fired home a ferocious shot from the edge of the box 26 minutes before the end.

The scenario now facing the Australians is complicated, with their fate out of their own hands.

Firstly, the Olyroos must beat Denmark, who have not been overly impressive in their two scoreless draws to date, and then they must hope that group leaders Ghana can defeat Mexico in Sabadell.

If Ghana and the Mexicans manage a draw, then Australia will need to beat Denmark by at least two goals in order to force their way into the decisive runners-up spot.

Such permutations would have been irrelevant, of course, if the Olyroos had secured both points against the Mexicans.

Yet, even the vocal support of a surprisingly healthy contingent of Australians in the 7,000 crowd, and the presence of perhaps 50-60 Borussia Dortmund fans who had come to cheer skipper Ned Zelic - soon to join the German club - was not enough to inspire the Olyroos to a better performance.

Denied the talents of playmaker Paul Okon, who was ruled out with a hamstring strain, the Australians struggled on a balmy night to gain momentum through the midfield, although Blagojevic, shifted into Okon's role, did have a magnificent first half.

Blagojevic, and the rest of the midfield quartet, was missing in the second half as the Mexicans took a grip on the game. Their intricate short-passing game, founded on the close skills of Silviano Delgado and David Rangel, often made the Olyroos look second-rate.

Their embarrassment was not helped by the regularity with which players went diving into tackles rather than jockeying for position.

To the credit of the Australians, however, they did dominate the final 10 minutes with substitutes David Seal and Carl Veart adding much-needed thrust in attack.

With two years of preparation now on the line in Zaragoza tomorrow, coach Eddie Thomson has hinted he may finally abandon his unpopular one-striker philosophy and put two men up front against the Danes as he goes on the attack.

Attack the Australians must, for they have nothing to lose now. The pity is that a run of bad luck in the opening game against Ghana has helped to put the Olyroos in such a difficult position, but then the team has not lived up to its potential in either game to date.

Zelic, certainly, has struggled to make an impact - withdrawing into a defensive shell as he has found his way forward blocked by the tactics of the other teams. Fullback Tony Vidmar - who seems to have lost confidence - is a shadow of the player who created such a favourable impression when he came into the national program last year.

Rediscovering the cockiness which helped them to eliminate the Dutch in the play-off stage may well hold the key to Australia's slender ambitions.

Sadly, the players have panicked under the pressure of the Olympics, abandoning the tactics which got them here in the first place - good distribution down the flanks and sensible use of the ball through the midfield.

Instead, we have seen an Australian team reverting to a hasty long-ball game, something which is too predictable and too often wasteful.

Olympic Games finals, Group stage, Group D

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
30th. July 1992, 19.00	Estadio La Romareda, Zaragoza, Spain			3000

Denmark U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, Denmark U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Niels Jørgensen					20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
4	DF	Claus Thomsen (c)				60	4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)		19		
2	DF	Thomas Helveg		23			3	DF	Dominic Longo				
3	DF	Jacob Laursen					5	DF	Shaun Murphy		10		
6	DF	Jakob Kjeldbjerg		11			6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar	75			
14	MF	Lars Højer Nielsen					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				44
10	MF	Per Frandsen					8	MF	Paul Okon				
13	MF	Stig Tøfting		71			10	FW	George Slifkas		17		
18	MF	Michael Larsen					11	FW	John Markovski	32			
11	FW	Peter Møller				71	12	FW	Damian Mori	60			
9	FW	Miklos Molnar		41	63		16	FW	David Seal				
SUBSTITUTES													
5	DF	Peter Frank Andersen					1	GK	John Filan				
7	DF	Jens Madsen				60	7	MF	John Gibson				
8	MF	Ronnie Ekelund					9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				
12	DF	Jens Risager					13	FW	Carl Veart				
15	MF	Michael Hansen					14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
16	GK	Brian Flies					15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
17	DF	Jens Madsen				71	17	MF	Gary Hasler				
19	FW	Søren Andersen					18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
20	MF	Michael Johansen					19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				
Team Coach		Viggo Jensen					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Fabio Baldas (Italy)											
Assistant Referee 1		Osvaldo Ruben Carlomagno (Argentina)											
Assistant Referee 2		Mohammad Fanaei (Iran)											

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 1/8/1992, page 33 by Michael Cockerill

Surprise, surprise, the Olyroos have done it again and will have their moment in the sun at the Nou Camp Stadium after their epic 3-0 win against Denmark in Zaragoza last night.

The Australian under-23 team will line-up at the stadium, the home of FC Barcelona, on Sunday night for a quarter-final match against Sweden - a scenario that had seemed implausible before last night's final Group D matches.

Last-placed Australia faced the third-ranked European team, not only needing victory themselves but also reliant on a favourable result from the other group match between Ghana and Mexico being played simultaneously in Sabadell.

In the end, the Olyroos got there on the basis of their own efforts, with the three-goal victory over the Danes proving enough to make the outcome of the other game, which finished 1-1, virtually irrelevant.

Just as in their play-off series against the Netherlands, the Australians showed they are at their best with their backs against the wall.

There is widespread optimism within the Olyroos team that they can get through to the semi-finals by beating Sweden.

Nine of the Swedish players here for the Olympics also toured Australia with the senior team in January, when the Socceroos won two and drew one of the three matches played in Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne.

The Olyroos are still in the tournament thanks to a magnificent, committed performance in Zaragoza, where they went at the Danes from the opening whistle and at last had the breaks go their way.

Coach Eddie Thomson had made three changes to the team that drew 1-1 against Mexico on Tuesday, bringing back Paul Okon from injury, and promoting Davis Seal and John Markovski at the expense of Zlatko Arambasic and Steve Refenes respectively.

With Okon still not fully fit after a hamstring strain, Thomson put him in the sweeper's role, and skipper Ned Zelic was shifted into central midfield. The moves all worked a treat - Seal proving mobile and always alert up front, Zelic laying the foundations with his clever distribution and Markovski surprising the Danes with his power and aggression.

At last, left fullback Tony Vidmar also rediscovered the form that made him a senior international last year, raiding dangerously down the left flank where he combined superbly with Markovski. It was the big Marconi-Fairfield flanker who opened the scoring for Australia after Danish goalkeeper Niels Jorgensen flapped and missed at a George Slifkas corner and Markovski's mis-kick spun in off the upright.

Utility Damien Mori added a second goal early in the second half with a ferocious left-foot drive from 25m. Frustrated at seeing their Olympic dreams slipping away, Denmark paid the price for their physical approach when striker Jon Molnar was sent-off, and Vidmar finally rubbed salt into the wounds when he found himself in the open before chipping a curling shot past the exposed Jorgensen for Australia's third goal.

The only concerns facing the Olyroos, as they prepare for their biggest game so far, is the injury to fullback Milan Blagojevic, who was carried off on a stretcher last night with a badly swollen ankle. Slifkas will miss the quarter-finals after receiving two yellow cards.

Olympic Games finals, Quarter-Final													
Date & Time			Venue					Weather		Temperature		Attendance	
2nd. August 1992, 21.30			Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain									30000	
Sweden U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2													
half time, Sweden U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Jan Ekholm					20	GK	Mark Bosnich		90+1		
7	DF	Patrik Andersson (c)	62				3	DF	Dominic Longo				
2	DF	Magnus Johansson					5	DF	Shaun Murphy	55			
15	DF	Björn Lilius					6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
3	DF	Joachim Björklund					4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
8	MF	Stefan Landberg					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
13	MF	Jesper Jansson				59	8	MF	Paul Okon				
6	MF	Håkan Mild					12	FW	Damian Mori				
9	MF	Christer Fursth					11	FW	John Markovski	30			
10	MF	Jonny Rödlund					13	FW	Carl Veart		72		74
11	MF	Tomas Brolin				30	9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				63
SUBSTITUTES													
4	DF	Filip Apelstav					1	GK	John Filan				
5	MF	Niclas Alexandersson					7	MF	John Gibson				
12	GK	Håkan Svensson					10	FW	George Slifkas				
14	DF	Jörgen Moberg					14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				74
16	DF	Henrik Nilsson					15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
17	MF	Anders Andersson					16	FW	David Seal				63
18	FW	Pascal Simpson					17	MF	Gary Hasler				
19	MF	Niklas Gudmundsson				30	18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
20	FW	Jonas Axeldahl				59	19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				
Team Coach		Nisse Andersson					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Arturo Brizio Carter (Mexico)											
Assistant Referee 1		Park Hae-Yong (Korea Republic)											
Assistant Referee 2		Luc Matthys (Belgium)											

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 4/8/1992, Olympic Extra page 1 by Michael Cockerill

Could it really happen? Could the dream of a historic soccer medal at the Olympics come true? No reason why not, as the Olyroos, now standing just one game away from a place in the final, proved once again last night that they are a team who refuse to be beaten.

It was a slightly surreal atmosphere which permeated the press room after the famous 2-1 victory over Sweden guaranteed a berth in the semi-finals. On one of the grandest stages in world football, the magnificent Nou Camp Stadium, the unheralded outsiders had added another impressive scalp to a list of conquests which could conceivably include their opponents in Wednesday night's semi-final, Poland.

"We can beat anybody, I'm telling you," said beaming coach Eddie Thomson.

"These lads just don't know how to get beaten. I'm proud of every one of them."

The flow of the game, emphasised by a 13-1 corner count in their favour, was dominated by the Swedes, and yet they could not fashion the killer punch to turn their supremacy into victory.

Old-fashioned Aussie determination and a generous slice of luck, which saw defender Shaun Murphy deflect a shot going well wide into the net for what proved to be the winning goal, laid the foundations for a success which is undoubtedly the greatest achievement in Australian soccer history.

That is a statement which has been repeated with great monotony over the past few months, but this team of under-23 players keeps taking expectations to a new plane. Down and almost out in the play-offs against the Netherlands, virtually written off before their final group match against Denmark last Thursday night, and buffeted by the Swedes for the entire second half last night, the Olyroos keep triumphing over adversity.

In that light there is no reason to write them off against the Poles who, with host nation Spain, have looked the most impressive team in the tournament.

It is character, certainly, which has played a major role in getting the team this far. Even way back in November, on a sweaty tropical night in Lautoka, the Olyroos had to draw heavily on their reserves of commitment to edge out New Zealand in a match which, at that stage, could have been the end of their Olympic campaign.

Since then, the Australians have added polish to their endeavour, capable of playing outstanding football at times, boasting genuine quality players in key positions and learning the intricacies of surviving at such a demanding level with each game they play.

Such survival instincts carved out the victory against Sweden, who were runners-up in the European qualifying tournament.

A player who this season struggled to make the first team at his NSL club, John Markovski, contributed much to the success, retaining possession well, always looking dangerous on the ball, and scoring the goal which opened the account, a thumping volley from his powerful left foot after Damien Mori had crossed superbly from the right.

That goal arrived midway through the first half, and came as Sweden started taking command.

With five senior internationals in their starting XI, the Swedes had all the pedigree. The Olyroos, however, are not in the habit of taking reputations into account.

A second goal 12 minutes into the second half gave Australia a little breathing space.

Sweden hit back when striker Jonny Roedlund forced home the ball in a melee following a corner, but they just could not find the break over the frenetic final stages to grab an equaliser.

On a night when the midfield partnership of Ned Zelic and Milan Blagojevic was decidedly subdued, goalkeeper Mark Bosnich instilled confidence at a time when all around him seemed to be falling apart.
The Olyroos sis not play particularly well, and Thomson understands that they will need to rediscover the form which took Denmark apart if they are to survive the challenge presented by Poland on Wednesday.

Olympic Games finals, Semi-Final													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
5th. August 1992, 21.30			Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain									45000	
Poland U-23..6 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Poland U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Aleksander Kłak					20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
3	DF	Tomasz Łapiński					3	DF	Dominic Longo				
5	DF	Tomasz Wałdoch					5	DF	Shaun Murphy	70(og)			
4	DF	Marek Koźmiński					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic				
2	DF	Marcin Jałocha				81	4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
8	DF	Dariusz Adamczuk		58			6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
10	MF	Jerzy Brzęczek (c)				83	8	MF	Paul Okon				
13	MF	Ryszard Staniek					10	FW	George Slifkas				
7	MF	Piotr Świerczewski					11	FW	John Markovski				68
11	FW	Andrzej Juskowiak	43, 55, 80				12	FW	Damian Mori				79
20	FW	Wojciech Kowalczyk	28, 90				13	FW	Carl Veart	36	73		
SUBSTITUTES													
6	DF	Dariusz Gęsior				83	1	GK	John Filan				
9	FW	Grzegorz Mielcarski					7	MF	John Gibson				
12	GK	Arkadiusz Onyszko					9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				79
14	DF	Marek Bajor				81	14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
15	MF	Andrzej Kobylański					15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				
16	FW	Mirosław "Mirek" Waligóra					16	FW	David Seal				68
17	MF	Dariusz Szubert					17	MF	Gary Hasler				
18	MF	Tomasz Wieszczycki					18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
19	MF	Dariusz Koseła					19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				
Team Coach		Janusz Wojcik					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Marcio Rezende de Freitas (Brazil)											
Assistant Referee 1		Charles Monnier (France)											
Assistant Referee 2		Mohammad Fanaei (Iran)											

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 7/8/1992, Olympic Extra page 2 by Michael Cockerill

The Olyroos Olympic dream has turned full circle.

It was against Ghana that the Olympic Games campaign kicked off to a faltering start in what seems a lifetime ago in Sabadell.

Now the Olyroos will get their chance for revenge when the two losing semi-finalists meet in a bronze-medal battle at the Nou Camp Stadium tomorrow night.

It will be a difficult assignment for Australia in more ways than one, especially as they will have had less than 48 hours to come to terms with their 6-1 hiding at the hands of Poland - a defeat which ranks among the worst in Australian soccer history.

Goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, always strikingly honest in his assessments, sized up the task confronting the Olyroos. "This is the time to see who is going to bottle it, and who isn't," he said.

"You can carry a defeat like that for the rest of your life. Personally, I found it very embarrassing. But now we've got to get our heads up one more time."

It is rarely easy to separate the fact from fiction, but the overriding impression from the Olyroos' capitulation at the hands of a very good and very smart Polish team last night was that they did not deserve to lose by such a huge margin.

In the sense there was enough encouragement from the wreckage to suggest that Australia can recover in time to salvage the bronze medal tomorrow, but it won't be easy.

Certainly, the over-confidence, even arrogance, which too many Australian players took into the Polish game should have disappeared by the time the team returns to the scene of the slaughter.

Bosnich again offered an insightful observation; "They [Poland] were definitely a three-goal better team - and it hurts me to say that. I think what it shows is that we may have made a lot of progress in Australian soccer, but we still have a long way to go."

And yet, if the team may have been slightly naïve in engaging in a game of brinkmanship with the Poles - backing their ability on the ball against the full-time European professionals - they should not feel ashamed to have done it.

It really was an entertaining match, with play sweeping from end to end. The Olyroos were by no means disgraced, even if the scoreboard told otherwise, and if they had not presented four of the six goals on a platter, one an unfortunate own goal by Shaun Murphy, and the other three the result of appalling defensive mistakes, then it may have been a different story.

That is not to suggest that Poland did not deserve to win the match. With three outstanding front-runners in hat-trick hero Andrzej Juskowiak, and wingers Dariusz Adamczuk and Wojciech Kowalcyzk, the Poles were devastating on the break - far too quick, far too direct, and far too clinical for the Australians.

A blunder by sweeper Paul Okon, when he allowed Kowalcyzk to steal the ball and slip his shot under the advancing Bosnich, set the tone for the evening.

The Olyroos equalised when Carl Veart, operating as the lone striker, stooped to head home a fine cross from Milan Blagojevic, but just as it seemed they would go into the break on even terms, another defensive error allowed the prowling Juskowiak to haed home unmarked from the edge of the six-yard box.

The decisive third Polish goal came shortly after half-time when George Slifkas lost possession in his own half, and Juskowiak again converted the chance.

Then the floodgates opened, but not before Blagojevic hit the crossbar with a header and substitute David Seal forced a fine reflex save out of goalkeeper Aleksander Klak.

Hungry for more goals, and even hungrier to show the watching talent scouts that they deserve a lucrative contract in the west, the Poles turned the screws - helped by Australia's commitment to all-out attack.
"When it was 3-1 it would have been easy to close down the game, but I wanted us to go looking for 3-3," Thomson said. "The scoreline looks bad, but there was no way in the world that that was a 6-1 game. The people who were here will see that."
But what matters most, as Thomson himself is wont to say, is the scoreline, and history will show that the result was the worst since 1965 when the senior team were thumped by the same scoreline in their first-ever World Cup match against North Korea.
However, the incentive of a bronze medal should be motivation enough against Ghana.
With the imminent break-up of the team - at last count nine of the 13 players used last night will be playing in Europe next season (the latest moves have Murphy going to Notts County, Blagojevic to Ekeren and Longo to an unidentified English club) - the Olyroos will want a fitting farewell.

Olympic Games, 3rd-4th place Play-off													
Date & Time			Venue					Weather		Temperature		Attendance	
7th. August 1992, 20.00			Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain									15000	
Ghana U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0													
half time, Ghana U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
20	GK	Ibrahim Dossey				63	1	GK	John Filan				
2	DF	Frank Amankwah					4	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic (c)				
3	DF	Isaac Asare	20				3	DF	Dominic Longo				
13	DF	Sammi Adjei		72			5	DF	Shaun Murphy				22
4	DF	Mohammed Gargo					2	DF	Milan Blagojevic		52		
5	MF	Joachim Yaw Acheampong					6	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar				
11	MF	Samuel Ablade Kumah (c)					19	MF	Bradley "Brad" Maloney				72
8	MF	Nii Odartey Lamptey		37		46	8	MF	Paul Okon				
15	MF	Bernard Aryee		58			17	MF	Gary Hasler				
18	FW	Yaw Preko					14	MF	Stavros "Steve" Refenes				
9	FW	Kwame Ayew					12	FW	Damian Mori				
SUBSTITUTES													
1	GK	Anthony Mensah					7	MF	John Gibson				
6	MF	Alex Nyarko					9	FW	Zlatko Arambašić				
7	MF	Oli Rahman					10	FW	George Slifkas				
10	MF	Shamo Quaye		56	87	46	11	FW	John Markovski				72
12	DF	Samuel Kuffour					13	FW	Carl Veart				
14	DF	Mohammed Dramani Kalilu					15	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic				22
16	GK	Simon Addo				63	16	FW	David Seal				
17	FW	Maxwell Konadu					18	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
19	FW	Mamood Amadu					20	GK	Mark Bosnich				
Team Coach		Samuel Arday					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Manuel Diaz Vega (Spain)											
Assistant Referee 1		Sandor Marton (Hungary)											
Assistant Referee 2		Kenny Clark (Scotland)											

match report from United Press International

Isaac Asare scored in the first half and Ghana survived a man disadvantage in the final minutes Friday night to take the Olympic soccer bronze medal with a 1-0 victory over Australia.

Playing in front of an estimated 15,000 fans at Nou Camp Stadium, Ghana won despite being forced to substitute its goalkeeper because of injury.

Several other players were limping after a hard-tackling second half that left referee Manuel Diaz Vega of Spain handing out yellow cards like stadium giveaways.

Ghana's Shamo Quaye was sent off with about five minutes remaining after drawing his second yellow card of the match. His caution for time-wasting came after one for a hard tackle in the 56th minute.

Ghana's Nii Lamptey, Bernard Aryee and Sammi Adjei also received yellow cards, while Milan Blagojevic was booked for Australia.

Ghana's victory gave Africa its first medal of any kind in Olympic soccer, which has been contested since 1908. Made up primarily of players from Ghana's under-20 world champions in 1991, the team's only loss came in a 2-0 decision to Spain in the semifinals.

Host Spain plays Saturday night against Poland for the gold medal. Australia, despite its best performance in the tournament, wound up without a medal.

Asare's goal put Ghana ahead 1-0 in the 19th minute, but it was the stellar play of starting goalkeeper Ibrahim Dossey that allowed the Africans to hold the lead.

Dossey was called upon to make several crucial saves in the half, including one on a penalty kick before the match was 15 minutes old.

Two minutes after a controversial call in which Australia was awarded a free kick just outside the penalty area, Ghana's Frank Amankwah was whistled for bringing down Ned Zelic inside the area.

Taking the penalty, Paul Okon tried to ram a shot into the top part of the net, but Dossey went high to tip it away.

Asare put Ghana ahead four minutes later with his free kick from 40 yards away. The defender stroked an outswinger that threaded between a handful of Australia players and into the top right corner of the net.

Australia lost the services of sweeper Shaun Murphy in the 22nd minute, suffering a suspected broken nose in a collision with Lamptey. Jumping in to make an attempted tackle on Lamptey, he was greeted by an elbow that created an ugly gash across the bridge of his nose, left obviously crookened by the blow.

Ghana just missed a chance to take a two-goal advantage in the 43rd minute, as a shot from Yaw Preko hit the post.

Dossey sparkled again seconds before halftime, going high to catch a hard shot from Australia's Tony Vidmar off a corner kick.

Dossey was hurt in the first minute of the second half after fighting off Gary Hasler for a free ball in the area. He went down again in the 62nd minute, holding his leg, and eventually was taken off on a stretcher.

Simon Addo was called on to replace him.

Addo also played brilliantly in goal, making a tough save on a Vidmar shot minutes after taking over and then surviving a barrage by Australia in the final 10 minutes.

Vidmar threatened in the 80th minute, pouncing on a free ball in the area and blasting a shot at Addo that he just managed to tip out of bounds.

A minute later, substitute John Markovski made a steal just outside the penalty area. He turned and unleashed a hard shot along the ground that rolled wide right.

Vidmar had another close call in the 83rd minute, taking a through ball on the left side and hitting a shot that rolled untouched through the goalmouth.

The Aussies weren't done, with another threat just before time. Markovski headed a pass across the area to Hasler, whose sliding shot flew just above the crossbar.

1994

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. February 1994,	Bruce Athletics Field, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			2000

Australia U-23..3 v. Urawa Red Diamonds (Japan)..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Urawa Red Diamonds..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Clint Bolton						GK	Hisashi Tsuchida				
	DF	Vinko Buljubasic											
	DF	Luke Casserly											
	DF	Mark Babic						MF	Kiyonobu Okajima				
	DF	Ante Juric						MF	Nobuyuki Hosaka				
	DF	Frank Tibaldi				80		MF	Masayuki Okano				
	DF	Peter Tsekenis											
	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez						FW	Yoshiaki Sato				
	MF	Brendan Renaud				46		FW	Michael Rummenigge	44			
	FW	Adrian Cervinski				X							
	FW	Mark Viduka	89										
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Sean Cranney	84			80							
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	78			46							
	MF	Damian Vojtek				X							
Team Coach							Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

The Canberra Times, 17/2/1994, page 22 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/134302563

Two second-half substitutes turned territorial domination into the goals that gave the Australian Olympic soccer team a 3-1 win over Mitsubishi Urawa Red Diamonds last night.

Three goals, two coming from substitutes Joe Spiteri and Sean Cranney, saw the home side overcome a first-half strike by the Japanese.

The Olyroos left it late, their first score not coming until the 78th minute when Parramatta Eagles' Spiteri struck a 7m drive past talented Red Diamonds goalkeeper Hisashi Tsuchida.

Spiteri had been on since half time, but Cranney was less than five minutes into his contribution when he ran some 70m to hammer home the Olyroos' second.

And big Mark Viduka rounded off an excellent night for coach Eddie Thomson when he beat the offside trap to seal a deserved first-up win for the 1996 Olympic hopefuls.

The Olyroos spent most of the first half seeking the opening goal, but ended it by trailing. With just a minute left, German Michael Rummenigge drifted in as team mate Nobuyuki Hosaka took the ball down the right.

Hosaka's cross found the midfielder perfectly placed to stab the ball past goalkeeper Clint Bolton.

Urawa began the game with a rush, and Yoshiaki Sato should have done better than the wild swing and a miss at a ball carefully supplied by Masayuki Okano.

In between those two incidents it was 80 per cent Olyroos, but the inevitable lack of polish that comes from a team playing together for the first time was apparent.

Viduka, an intimidating young giant in the forward line, went close with a glancing header, and was then stopped by Sato's emergency tackle.

If anything, it was his striking partner, Adrian Cervinski, who created the greater impression a 19th minute drive from Mark Babic's pass forcing a fine save from Tsuchida.

There was no change in the tempo of the game after the interval. Spiteri, revelled in some slack marking, racing into the penalty area to drive a shot under Tsuchida's body, but just wide; Peter Tsekenis got a shot at goal a half-second before the ball was hacked off his feet.

With 69 minutes gone the Olyroos had their best chance yet when Kiyonobu Okajima handled in the penalty area. Viduka took the kick but the league's leading scorer hit it against the body of the diving Tsuchida.

The ball was headed back by the striker but the quicksilver Tsuchida was up off the ground to collect.

Just when it seemed Australia was destined to a blank evening the super-subs did their work.

A delighted Thomson admitted afterwards he was prepared for "a two or three-goal loss".

"Instead we played all over them for most of the game and finally took our chance," he said.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. February 1994, 16.30	Bruce Athletics Field, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Australia U-23..3 v. Jubilo Iwata (Japan)..0

half time, Australia U-23..3 v. Jubilo Iwata..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Vince Matassa											
	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis											
	DF	Richie Alagich											
	DF	Kevin Muscat											
	MF	Sean Cranney											
	MF	Ante Moric											
	MF	Goran Lozanovski	15										
	MF	Sasha Dimoski											
	MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell											
	MF	Ufuk Talay	12										
	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	30					FW	Gerald Vanenburg				
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Canberra Times, 18/2/1994, page 25 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/134302870

Australia's new Olympic soccer squad notched its second win in two games against Japanese professional teams yesterday to give coach Eddie Thomson good cause to smile.
"I'm happy, from both [game squads] we should be able to get a reasonable team, and there are some overseas players still to join us," Thompson said.
"So we should be able to put together a good team [for the qualifying rounds next year]."
The Olyroos squad played its first game on Wednesday night against Urawa Red Diamonds, winning 3-1, and defeated J-League newcomer Jubilo Iwata 3-0 yesterday.
Thompson has the squad at an Australian Institute of Sport training camp until today.
He is planning a July-August trip for the squad to Malaysia and Europe, and said he would then be able to predict Australia's future in Olympic qualifying.
"It's early days yet," he said yesterday. "But there were good signs there today."

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 18/2/1994, page 36

Three first-half goals earned the Olyroos a comfortable victory over a below-standard Jubilo Iwata yesterday. The Japanese visitors, who included Dutch international Gerald Vanenberg in their line-up, were no match for the Australians and resorted to a succession of niggling, sometimes brutal, fouls in the second half to slow down the momentum.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. May 1994,	Olympic Park, Melbourne, Victoria			

Australia U-23..1 v. FC Aris Thessaloniki (Greece)..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. FC Aris Thessaloniki..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Frank Juric											
	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				X							
	DF	Kevin Muscat											
	DF	Peter Tsekenis											
	MF	Ross Aloisi											
	MF	Sean Cranney											
	MF	Ante Moric											
	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez											
	MF	Damian Vojtek				X*							
	FW	Paul Agostino											
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	39										
SUBSTITUTES													
	DF	Richie Alagich				X							
	MF	Brendan Renaud				X*							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	John Fraser		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
21st. May 1994, 19.30	Gold Coast Seagulls Stadium, Tweed Heads, New South Wales			5512

Australia U-23..1 v. Sheffield United (England)..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Sheffield United..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Frank Juric											
	DF	Kevin Muscat											
	DF	Vinko Buljubasic				X*							
	DF	Richie Alagich											
	MF	Ross Aloisi											
	MF	Sean Cranney											
	MF	Goran Lozanovski							Nathan Blake	25			
	MF	Ante Moric				X							
	MF	Sasha Dimoski				X**							
	MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				X***							
	FW	Paul Agostino	63										
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				X**							
	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				X							
	MF	Damian Vojtek				X*							
	DF	Peter Tsekenis				X***							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Bob Davies		
Assistant Referee 1	Martin Cox		
Assistant Referee 2	Stuart Hase		

match report from the Northern Star, 23/5/1994
When is the next soccer game at Seagulls Stadium?
That seemed to be the question asked by soccer starved fans from the Tweed and Gold Coast after touring Premier League side Sheffield United and the Australian Olyroos drew 1-all on Saturday night.
The undoubted star of the night was Sheffield United striker Nathan Blake, who scored the touring side's goal.
A number of promising forays into attack by the Aussies were finally rewarded mid-way through the second half when international striker Paul Agostino goaled to level the scores.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. May 1994, 19.30	Mitre 10 Stadium, Newcastle, Australia			

Australia U-23..0 v. FC Aris Thessaloniki (Greece)..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. FC Aris Thessaloniki..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Clint Bolton							T. Papadopoulos			X	
	DF	Peter Tsekenis						DF	Georgios Koltsidas		X	88	
	DF	Luke Casserly				46		DF	Kostas Konstantinidis		X	X	
	DF	Richie Alagich											
	MF	Ross Aloisi				65							
	MF	Sean Cranney						MF	Giannis Chrisostomidis		X		
	MF	Ante Moric						MF	Giorgos Iosifidis	71		X	
	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez											
	MF	Goran Lozanovski											
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri						FW	Zoran Lončar		X		
	FW	Paul Agostino				62							
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				46							
	MF	Brendan Renaud				65							
	MF	Sasha Dimoski				62							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Neil Jones		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Giannis Chrisostomidis is also shown as Iannis Hristomidis, Giannis Chrysostomidis and Ioannais Crisostomidis.

match report from Newcastle Morning Herald, 28/5/1994
A Greek tragedy was the only way to describe last night's match between the Olyroos and Greek first division soccer team FC Aris de Salonique with four Aris players sent off in the last 15 minutes of the game.
Tempers flared after half time when Aris scored in the 71st minute.
The game deteriorated after that with Aris forcing referee Neil Jones to haul out the yellow card on more than eight occasions.
G.Iosifidis scored the only goal of the night for Aris with the help of Z.Lončar but Lončar quickly scored a yellow card after the goal and the first scuffle broke out after an Olyroo hung onto the ball and an Ari player pushed him.
Aris's K.Konstantinidis was awarded his second yellow card of the evening and started the exodus back to the showers for the Aris side.
In disgust I.Hristomidis kicked the ball away and was shown the yellow card.
Like a bull hassled by a red rag Koltsidas reacted badly to his team mate's warning and was given the yellow card treatment as well.
A standoff resulted between the two teams gathered in the corner near Aris's goal hurling abuse at each other.
With only two minutes to go and several minutes injury time Koltsidas was shown another card which he promptly grabbed out of Jones's hand and flung on the ground.
Koltsidas and T.Papadopoulos were then sent off and for a few moments it looked like there would have been a walkoff by the Greek first division side.
Within a minute the game went from the ridiculous to the sublime with Iosifidis sent off as well sending the total number of Aris players sent off up to four.
After the Olyroos defeated Aris 1-0 a fortnight ago in Victoria everyone expected Aris to try and defeat the Olyroos but no one expected Aris to take the grudge so far.
Richard Alagich a midfielder who plays for West Adelaide was the biggest casualty of the night.
Last night he was at the John Hunter Hospital with a suspected broken leg after a harsh tackle.
Olyroos' Kevin Muscat was declared unfit by doctors before the game and Luke Casserly replaced him on the field.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
8th. July 1994,	WACA Ground, Perth, Western Australia			

Perth Kangaroos..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Perth kangaroos..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Vince Matassa						GK	Frank Juric				
2	DF	Vladimir Beretovac						DF	Luke Casserly				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Ross Aloisi				
								MF	Sean Cranney				
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				
								MF	Damian Vojtek				X
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	4			X*
								FW	Mark Viduka	75			
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				X
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				X*

Team Coach	Gary Marocchi	Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	J.Sharp		
Assistant Referee 1	S.Davidson		
Assistant Referee 2	P.Ashcroft		

The Perth Kangaroos squad included the following players:-
1.Vince Matassa, 2.Vladimir Beretovac, 3.Jason van Rooy, 4.Alex Cummings, 5.Sean Lynch, 6.Gareth Naven (c), 7.Pay Marinovic, 8.Steve Bourne, 9.Paul McVittie, 10.Gary Lees, 11.Paul Strudwick, 12.Dale Wingell, 13.Taki Nicolaidis, 14.Stephen Willey, 15.Scott Miller, 16.Joe Marrapodi, 18.Michael Petkovic.

The Perth Kangaroos squad is copied from The West Australian, 8/7/1994, page 68

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. July 1994,	Dorrien Gardens, Perth, Western Australia			

Western Australia..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Western Australia..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Clint Bolton				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Luke Casserly				
		Frank Bate	75(pk)					DF	Vinko Buljubasic				X
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				X*
								MF	Sasha Dimoski				X**
								FW	Adrian Cervinski				
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Sean Cranney				X
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				X*
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell	92			X**

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Andy Gorton		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Western Australia squad included the following players:-
Tom Maras, Willie McNally, Alan Armstrong, Mark Brown, Rene de Koning, Alex Cummings, Paul Blakeley, Richard Watson, Craig Deans, Craig Moodie, Paul Waddingham, Paul McVittie, Mark Pottier, Stan Lazaridis, Ross Greer, Troy Halpin, Slobodan "Bobby" Despotovski, John Costa, and Marcus Stergiopoulos.

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 11/7/1994, page 38
A dramatic equaliser two minutes into injury time by Adelaide City striker Brad Hassell earned the Olyroos a 1-1 draw with Western Australia at Dorrien Gardens, Perth, last night. With the game seemingly slipping away from the young Olympic side, Hassell followed up a parried shot by Sydney Olympic's Peter Tsekenis and fired home. The Olyroos went behind against the run of play in the 75th minute when the state side scored from the penalty spot.

To celebrate the inauguration (perasmian translates to inauguration) of the Shah Alam Stadium, a tournament was held.
The tournament consisted of teams from Dundee United, Bayern Munich, Selangor FA Selection, Australia U-23, Flamengo and Leeds United.
Flamengo defeated Bayern Munich 3-1 (23/7/1994) in the final.

Perasmian Stadium Shah Alam Tournament				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. July 1994,	Shah Alam Stadium, Selangor, Malaysia			

Clube de Regatas do Flamengo (Brazil)..0 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Clube de Regatas do Flamengo..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Frank Juric				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Sean Cranney				
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				57
								MF	Ross Aloisi				
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				70
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Sasha Dimoski				57
								MF	Damian Vojtek				70
Team Coach							Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

The Flamengo squad included; No.1 (GK) - Adriano, No.2 - Henrique, No.3 - Gelson, No.4 - Rogerio, No.5 - Fabinho, No.6 - Marcos Adriano, No.7 - Hugo, No.8 - Marquinhos, No.9 - Magno, No.10 - Rodriogo, No.11 - Savio, No.? - Fabiano, No.? - Charles, No.? (GK) - Fábio Noronha.

As is custom with South American teams, the players are often referred to by a single name. This often leads to confusion to the actual name of a player.
Adriano is Adriano Basso.
Gelson is Gélson "Gélson Baresi" Tadivo Gonçalves Junior.
Rogerio is Rogério Moraes Lourenço.
Fabinho is Fábio "Fabinho" Silva de Azevedo.
Marcos Adriano is Marcus Adriano Gonçalves de Barros.
Marquinhos is Marcos "Marquinhos" Corrêa dos Santos.
Magno is Magno Mocelín.
Rodriogo is Rodrigo Fabiano Mandes.
Savio is Sávio Bortolini Pimentel.
Fabiano is Fabiano Cezar Viegas.
Charles is Charles Fabián Figueirido Santos.
Fábio Noronha is Fábio Noronha de Oliveira

Perasmian Stadium Shah Alam Tournament													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
19th. July 1994,			Shah Alam Stadium, Selangor, Malaysia									2000	
Leeds United (England)..2 v. Australia U-23..1													
half time, Leeds United..1 v, Australian U-23..1													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	John Lukic					1	GK	Frank Juric				
3	DF	Tony Dorigo					3	DF	Vinko Buljubasic				80
5	DF	David Wetherall					4	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
6	DF	Nigel Worthington					5	DF	Kevin Muscat				
2	MF	Mark Tinkler					8	DF	Peter Tsekenis				
4	MF	Carlton Palmer					2	MF	Ross Aloisi				
7	MF	David White	2			80	6	MF	Ante Moric				
10	MF	Gary McAllister					7	MF	Sean Cranney				60
11	MF	Gary Speed					9	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
8	FW	Rodney Wallace					10	MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				
9	FW	Brian Deane				80*	11	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	37			
SUBSTITUTES													
12	MF	Gordon Strachan				80	14	DF	Luke Casserly				80
13	GK	Mark Beeney					12	FW	Adrian Cervinski				60
14	FW	Philomen Masinga	82			80*	13	GK	Clint Bolton				
Team Coach							Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

David White gave Leeds a flying start with a goal in the second minute. Joe Spiteri equalized for the Australians in the thirty-eighth minute. United brought on Gordon Strachan at Outside Right for David White and Phil Masinga at Centre Forward for Brian Deane, in the eightieth minute. Two minutes later the tall South African got the winner for Leeds.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. July 1994,	Glasgow, Scotland			

Rangers (Scotland)..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Rangers..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Clint Bolton				
								DF	Vinko Buljubasic				60
								DF	Luke Casserly				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Ross Aloisi				
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Sean Cranney				
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				46
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				62
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Adrian Cervinski	67			46
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				60
								MF	Sasha Dimoski				62

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 27/7/1994, page 62
Australia's Olympic soccer team opened their European tour with a 1-0 win over Glasgow Rangers yesterday. Twenty minutes from time Melbourne Knights striker Adrian Cervinski volleyed home a cross from Ante Moric.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
28th. July 1994,	Scotland			

St.Mirren (Scotland)..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Frank Juric				
								DF	Vinko Buljubasic				
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Ross Aloisi				
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Sasha Dimoski				46
								MF	Damian Vojtek				46*
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				46**
								FW	Adrian Cervinski				
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				46
								MF	Sean Cranney				46*
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	65			46**

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 30/7/1994, page 57

Socceroo coach Eddie Thomson again badly missed the shooting skills of striker Mark Viduka after the Olyroos drew 1-1 with St Mirren in Scotland yesterday. Viduka, last season's leading scorer in the national league, injured a groin muscle in the two warm-up games in Perth and has spent the past two weeks receiving treatment at the Australian Institute of Sport. The draw followed Australia's 1-0 win over Glasgow Rangers on Monday.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
30th. July 1994,	Tannadice Park, Dundee, Scotland			2601

Dundee United (Scotland)..2 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Dundee United..2 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Alan Main						GK	Frank Juric				
	DF	Alexander "Alex" Cleland						DF	Luke Casserly				
	DF	Maurice Malpas				8		DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis	88			
	DF	Gordan Petrić						DF	Kevin Muscat				
	DF	Brian Welsh						DF	Peter Tsekenis				
	MF	David Hannah	28			46		MF	Ante Moric				
	MF	David "Dave" Bowman						MF	Sean Cranney				
	MF	William "Billy" McKinlay				46*		MF	Ross Aloisi				
	FW	Dragutin Ristić	44			60		MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
	FW	Craig Brewster				60*		MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				62
	FW	Jerren Nixon						FW	Adrian Cervinski	71			
SUBSTITUTES													
	DF	Gary Bollan				8		FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				62
	DF	Christian Dailly				46							
	FW	Andrew "Andy" McLaren				46*							
	MF	John O'Neil				60							
	FW	Patrick "Paddy" Connolly				60*							

Team Coach	Ivan Golac	Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Martin Clark (Scotland)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
2nd. August 1994,	Broadwood Stadium, Cumbernauld, Scotland			

Clyde FC (Scotland)..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Clint Bolton				
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Luke Casserly				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								MF	Ross Aloisi	51			
								MF	Sean Cranney				70
								MF	Ante Moric				
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
								FW	Adrian Cervinski				83
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				70
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				83

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
8th. August 1994,	Olympic Training Centre Papendal, Arnhem, Netherlands			

U.S.A. Olympic Team..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, U.S.A. Olympic Team..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Frank Juric				
								DF	Kevin Muscat	59(pk)			
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				
								DF	Luke Casserly				65
								MF	Ross Aloisi				
								MF	Ante Moric				
			75					MF	Sean Cranney				46
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
								FW	Adrian Cervinski				69
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				69
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				46
								DF	Vinko Buljubasic				65

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 10/8/1994, page 58
The Australian Olympic team has drawn 1-1 with the US Olympic team despite sominating most of the match in Pappendal in the Netherlands. Skipper Kevin Muscat put Australia ahead with a 59th-minute penalty but the US equalised with 15 minutes remaining.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. August 1994,	Rotterdam, Netherlands			

FC Dordrecht 90..2 v. Australia U-23..2

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Clint Bolton				
								DF	Vinko Buljubasic				
								DF	Kevin Muscat				
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				
								MF	Ross Aloisi	31			
								MF	Ante Moric				46
								MF	Goran Lozanovski	69			76
								MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				
								MF	Sasha Dimoski				70
								MF	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				
								FW	Adrian Cervinski				
SUBSTITUTES													
								DF	Luke Casserly				46
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				76
								DF	Peter Tsekenis				70

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 12/8/1994, page 39
Australia's Olympic soccer team wrapped up its European tour with a 2-2 draw against Dordrecht last night.

Four Nations Cup, Group Stage

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
14th. January 1995, 19.30	Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park, Sydney, New South Wales			8931

Australia U-23..1 v. Denmark U-23..3

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Denmark U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Clint Bolton					1	GK	Thomas Sorensen		X		
13	DF	Luke Casserly		X			14	DF	Allan Ravn Jensen				
5	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)		X			3	DF	Per Nielsen				
4	MF	Ross Aloisi		X			2	DF	Jan Sönksen	45	X		
17	MF	Vinko Buljubasic				46	8	MF	Peter Sorensen	60			
3	MF	Ante Moric	66				6	MF	Niclas Jensen				
7	MF	Goran Lozanovski					5	MF	Kim Daugaard				58
8	MF	Peter Tsekenis				63	12	MF	Ulrik Pedersen		X		72
12	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez					4	MF	Morten Falch				
14	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell					15	MF	Michael Nonbo	69			86
9	FW	Mark Viduka					18	FW	Steffen Hojer				
SUBSTITUTES													
2	MF	Sean Cranney				46	13	MF	Kern Lyhne				58
19	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak				63	19	DF	Thomas Rytter				72
							17	DF	Ole Tobiasen				86

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	Jan Poulsen
Referee	Richard Lorenc		
Assistant Referee 1	John Bowdler		
Assistant Referee 2	Stewart Lockrey		

match report from The Sun-Herald, 15/1/1995, page 79

The thin red line, descendants from the Vikings, saw Denmark hand the Olyroos a clear lesson in footballing skills last night.

The Danes, masterly led by teenaged skipper Peter Sorensen, hammered the Australians 3-1 at the Sydney Football Stadium.

The gangly, balding Sorensen superbly marshalled his warriors from midfield, and it will take a superhuman effort from the Olyroos to bounce back and qualify for the final in Sydney next Saturday.

Coach Eddie Thomson hinted at three or four changes for the match against Korea Republic in Canberra tomorrow night.

"We didn't get much of a chance in front of their goal while their second and third should have been stopped," Thomson said. "It was really schoolboy stuff at the back."

The Danes led 1-0 at the break and made it two on the hour after Sorensen scrambled home a loose ball past 'keeper Clint Bolton.

The Olyroos pulled one back seven minutes later after a brilliant piece of individualism from Sydney United defender Ante Moric.

But the fightback was shortlived. Midfielder Michael Nonbo made sure of the win with a smashing drive from the edge of the penalty box in the 69th minute.

Sadly for the Olyroos, leading NSL striker Mark Viduka left his scoring boots at home in Footscray and was hardly sighted.

The performance of midfielder Gabriel Mendez was one of the few bright spots in an otherwise disappointing performance against a Danish outfit that showed class and a willingness to chase every loose ball.

The Danes' first goal came against the run of play just 40 seconds before halftime when the ball was stolen from makeshift striker Brad Hassell inside the Danish penalty area.

A scrambling Danish defence reefed the ball downfield only to see it fall at the feet of sweeper Jan Sonksen loitering on the forward line.

Sonksen punished the Aussies with a simple tap-in after drawing the hapless Bolton off his line.

The Olyroos showed some guilt-edged ballwork in midfield early on but missed chances in the 33rd and 37th minutes.

● Korea drew first blood in the tournament with an entertaining 1-0 win over Japan.

The goal came in the 18th minute when striker Choi Yong Su converted a first-time volley against the run of play.

The Koreans showed why they were installed tournament favourites with their dazzling ball skills.

Japan will play Denmark in the other match in Canberra tomorrow.

Four Nations Cup, Group Stage				
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. January 1995, 20.30	Bruce Stadium, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			12000

Australia U-23..1 v. Korea Republic U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Korea Republic U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Jurić					23	GK	Lee Woon-Jae				
5	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					2	DF	Park Choong-Kyoon	65			
6	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis					4	DF	Lee Min-Sung				
18	DF	Mark Babic					14	DF	Kim Sang-Hoon				92
2	MF	Sean Cranney					15	DF	Cho Jong-Hwa				
3	MF	Ante Moric				X	6	MF	Lee Ki-Hyung				
7	MF	Goran Lozanovski					8	MF	Yoon Jong-Hwan				
12	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez					16	MF	Choi Yoon-Yeol				
15	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	70				9	FW	Woo Sung-Yong				
9	FW	Mark Viduka					10	FW	Choi Yong-Su (c)				
14	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				63	20	FW	Lee Woo-Young				
SUBSTITUTES													
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				X	5		Lee Kyung-Soo				92
19	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak				63							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Anatoly Bychovets				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Eugene Brazzale											
Assistant Referee 1		John Bowdler											
Assistant Referee 2		Larry Bittman											

match report from The Canberra Times, 17/1/1995, page 24 by Graham Cooke. http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/132459660

Joe Spiteri is often overshadowed in the Melbourne Knights' National Soccer League line-up by team-mate Mark Viduka, but last night he was the one the Bruce Stadium crowd was cheering as he salvaged some pride for Australian football.

His 70th minute strike brought a point for the Olyroos in a 1-1 draw with South Korea, keeping it in with a faint chance of reaching the Four Nations Tournament final when the third round is played in Wollongong tomorrow night.

The goal was a welcome sight for Australian coach Eddie Thomson. Until then his team had looked very ordinary, close to inept at times, in the face of a disciplined Korean opponent.

But it cannot disguise the problems this squad has if it is to fulfill its long term goal of qualification for the 1996 Olympics. While the problems at the back which dogged its first match against Denmark have been largely solved - defender Kevin Muscat was my man of the match - there is still a lack of potent strike power, and that is going to plague it when it comes up against the best in the world.

Last night there were also some positives - not least the spirited performance in the final 10 minutes which almost snatched victory from a country which is generally recognised as producing the best players in Asia.

From the first few minutes it was clear there would be few presents for Australia from the Korean defence. With 10 minutes gone, Spiteri and Viduka found openings in quick succession, only to see their efforts foiled.

At the other end, the speed of Jong Hwan Yoon left the Australians trailing and thankful to concede a corner. Then Spiteri worked the ball to the goal-line ahead of his marker, Sang Hoon Kim, but his cross was straight into the hands of goalkeeper Woon Jae Lee.

Viduka was getting little opportunity to show his scoring skills. The Melbourne Knights' striker managed a header under pressure, only to steer the ball over the bar.

It was just not happening for the Olyroos. They tried something different when Ante Moric set up Gabriel Mendez, coming up from midfield, but once again the move was stifled by the attentive Korean defence.

Viduka, using all his strength, battled his way between Sang Hoom Kim and Choong Hoon Kim, but his only reward was a corner.

The crowd was getting restive after 2½ hours of football without a goal, but when the drought was broken, the strike came from Korea.

First a Woo Young Lee corner found Jong Hwa Cho who steered the ball past the outstretched arm of Frank Juric only for Sean Cranney to hack it from the line.

It was the closest anyone had come to scoring in the game, and while the Australian defence was still trying to absorb what had gone wrong, captain Yong Su Choi got the ball back into the penalty area for Choong Kyoon Park to steer home.

The Korean bench exploded in delight as Park jumped the advertising boards and made a tour of Bruce's outer areas. The Olyroos needed something special to save the game now - and Spiteri was waiting to provide it.

Four Nations Cup, Group Stage													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
18th. January 1995, 20.30			Brandon Park, Wollongong, New South Wales									6325	
Australia U-23..2 v. Japan U-22..1													
half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Japan U-22..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Jurić					21	GK	Yoichi Doi				
13	DF	Luke Casserly					5	DF	Kenichi Uemura				
5	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					4	DF	Junji Nishizawa				
18	DF	Mark Babic					13	DF	Ji Sato				
17	MF	Vinko Buljubasic					22	DF	Yuji Hironaga				
16	MF	Sasha Dimoski					6	MF	Toshihiro Hattori				
7	MF	Goran Lozanovski				X	10	MF	Takayuki Yamaguchi				
12	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	42				7	MF	Masakiyo Maezono (c)				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto					12	FW	Shigeru Morioka				
9	FW	Mark Viduka	58				11	FW	Takafumi Ogura				
15	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				X*	9	FW	Masanobu Matsunami				
SUBSTITUTES													
8	MF	Peter Tsekenis				X	16	FW	Yoshika Matsubara	X			
19	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak				X*, X**							
14	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				X**							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Akira Nishino				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Masamitsu Namiki				
Referee		Gerry Connolly											
Assistant Referee 1		John Bowdler											
Assistant Referee 2		Stewart Lockrey											

match report from The Sydney Morning Herald, 19/1/1995, page 45

It was over before it began for the Olyroos, but at least some pride was salvaged with a 2-1 win over Japan in the Four Nations tournament at Wollongong last night.

Off the pitch the first venture of international soccer to Brandon Park proved a resounding success - more than 6,000 fans produced a gate above expectations.

On the pitch, sadly, the momentum was lost even before the Australian under-23s took the field - their slim hopes of qualifying for Saturday's final dashed by a 0-0 draw between Denmark and South Korea in the curtain-raiser.

Neither the Danes nor the Koreans made any apologies for a result which suited both of them by confirming their participation in the final at the Sydney Football Stadium on Saturday. For the final 20 minutes it never looked like being any other way, and when the Olyroos eventually took the field the only real consideration was to entertain.

There was entertainment, certainly, and the win was a tonic for a team which has paid a high price for a disastrous tournament opener against the Danes.

It was equally clear, however, that the team is still well short of its potential, and but for the antics of goalkeeper Doi Yoichi and some leniency from referee Gerry Connolly it might have been a different story in this match too.

Twice in the first half Australian players (Danny Tiatto and Goran Lozanovski) were guilty of using elbows which in different circumstances could have seen them sent off.

To compound the aggrievement of the Japanese, they then conceded a comic goal just before half-time, when a harmless free kick from the excellent Gabriel Mendez was totally misjudged by Yoichi who allowed it to bounce into the net.

The unfortunate goalkeeper was in the wars again soon after the resumption when he dropped an outswinging cross from midfielder Sasha Dimoski, and the predatory Mark Viduka swivelled superbly to half-volley the ball into the net.

A 70th minute consolation from substitute Matsubara Yoshika - after goalkeeper Frank Juric had failed to hold a long-range shot from Hironaga Yuji - raised the possibility of a late Japanese equaliser, but fortunately for the Olyroos skipper Kevin Muscat and his defensive partners Luke Casserley and Mark Babic held firm.

The form of the latter was certainly a cause for encouragement, as was the astute play of target man Viduka. But it was the stocky Mendez who shone brightest - guilty of over-eloboration on occasions, but nonetheless imaginative, determined and busy throughout.

The introduction of the screener, Peter Tsekenis, late in the first half clearly gave the midfield more balance, and allowed Mendez the freedom to roam into more dangerous areas.

For local hero Dimoski, an innocuous first half was salvaged somewhat but a much improved second half display, and the Wollongong City schemer may even have had a memorable goal but for a splendid reflex save from Yoichi.

For all that it is clear that much work remains to be done, particularly in midfield, if these Olyroos are to match the achievements of their predecessors in Barcelona.

Coach Eddie Thomson will understand those realities better than anyone, but with the option of calling on five European-based professionals (Craig Moore, Paul Agostino, Anthony Carbone, Willie Hastie and Richard Johnson), he will feel the possibility of genuine improvement is at hand.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Mendez, Viduka) bt JAPAN 1 (Yoshika). Crowd: 6,325.

Four Nations Cup, 3rd-4th place play-off													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
21st. January 1995, 17.30			Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park, Sydney, New South Wales									6041	
Australia U-23..3 v. Japan U-22..1													
half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Japan U-22..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
22	GK	Clint Bolton						GK	Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi				
5	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)	90(pk)				5	DF	Kenichi Uemura			89	
18	DF	Mark Babic					22	DF	Yuji Hironaga		X		
6	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				65							
4	MF	Ross Aloisi				46	6	MF	Toshihiro Hattori		X		
3	MF	Ante Moric											
8	MF	Peter Tsekenis					10	MF	Takayuki Yamaguchi		X	44	
12	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez											
2	MF	Sean Cranney				46*							
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	58				12	FW	Shigeru Morioka		60		
9	FW	Mark Viduka											
SUBSTITUTES													
15	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	89			46							
7	MF	Goran Lozanovski				65							
17	MF	Vinko Buljubasic				46*							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Akira Nishino				
Team Manager							Team Manager		Masamitsu Namiki				
Referee		Simon Micallef											
Assistant Referee 1		John Cameron											
Assistant Referee 2		Clive McKillop											

match report from The Sun-Herald, 22/1/1995, page 79

Denmark fly out for New Zealand today with some extra silverware in their baggage after beating Korea 2-1 in the final of the Four Nations soccer tournament at the Sydney Football Stadium last night.

The Danes were the more technically correct in a highly entertaining although often spiteful encounter.

While the Koreans opted for the kick-and-chase game, the Danes were content to play the ball on the ground.

Lanky skipper Peter Sorensen got the winner in the 81st minute after Ulrick Pedersen opened the scoring in the 22nd.

For Korea, Yoom Hwan Jong pulled one back in the 50th minute.

In the playoff for third, three second-half goals, including a penalty in injury time from skipper Kevin Muscat, saw the Olyroos crush Japan 3-1.

Melbourne Knights teammates Daniel Tiatto and Joe Spiteri ensured victory after Japan were reduced to nine men.

Referee Simon Micallef sent off Japanese defender Takayuki on the stroke of halftime then gave midfielder Kenichi his marching orders right on fulltime for a clumsy and crude tackle on Spiteri.

The lively Tiatto had put Australia ahead after 58 minutes with a blistering left-foot piledriver that had the Japanese goalkeeper grasping at thin air.

But Japan levelled two minutes later from a Morioka Shigeru header that bamboozled Olyroo keeper Clint Bolton.

The Olyroos had the better of the opening half, with Parramatta's Gabriel Mendez a shining light.

Mendez, operating in a right midfield role, took the game to the Japanese despite being often double and triple marked.

It was Mendez who provided the final pass for Tiatto's shot on goal.

The Olyroos could so easily have been two goals up a minute later when a seemingly harmless cross from the left by Ante Moric dipped viciously in the swirling breeze to strike the crossbar with keeper Yoshikatsu beaten.

Seven minutes later, Mendez waltzed past three defenders to provide the springboard for yet another attack.

The addition of Spiteri after halftime sparked the Olyroos into attack.

With nothing to play for but pride, they willingly kicked the ball around, probing for any weakness in the defence.

The new-look midfield combination of Mendez, Tiatto, Tsekenis and Ross Aloisi (until he was replaced) clicked into gear from the opening whistle.

AUSTRALIA 3 (Daniel Tiatto 58m, Joe Spiteri 89m, Kevin Muscat 90m) bt JAPAN 1 (Morioka Shigeru 60m).

To celebrate the centenary of West Ham United (1895-1995) they made a tour to Australia.
In addition to the two games against the Olyroos, West Ham also played the following matches:-
19th May 1995 Western Australia..2 v. West Ham United..2 played at WACA Ground, Perth Attendance..10,000 (there was a penalty shoot-out which Western Australia won 5-3).
21st May 1995 Victoria..1 v. West Ham United..1 played at Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne, Victoria Attendance..3,500

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. May 1995,	Marconi Stadium, Bossley Park, Sydney, New South Wales			5764

Australia U-23..0 v. West Ham United (England)..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. West Ham United..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Frank Jurić						GK	Leslie "Les" Sealey				46
	DF	Luke Casserly						DF	Timothy "Tim" Breacker				
	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)						DF	Steven "Steve" Potts				
	DF	Mark Babic						DF	Simon Webster		X		
	MF	Vinko Buljubasic						DF	Adrian Whitbread				
	MF	Ante Moric				76		DF	Kenneth "Kenny" Brown				
	MF	Goran Lozanovski				80		MF	Daniel "Danny" Williamson				
	MF	Peter Tsekenis						MF	Darren Currie				
	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				51		MF	Martin Allen				78
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri						MF	Donald "Don" Hutchison				
	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				46		FW	Daniel "Danny" Shipp				
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Sean Cranney				76		GK	Ian Feuer				46
	MF	Josip Skoko				80		FW	Malcolm McPherson	79			78
	DF	Frank Tibaldi				51							
	FW	Ante Milicic				46							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report by Steve Marsh (West Ham United supporters club)
After being slammed by the Victorian critics, Hammers flew into Sydney knowing that nothing less than a win would do. And in New South Wales there were no such worries as a stronger side turned on the style against the eager young Olyroos. Kick-off was delayed to allow everyone into the tightly packed Marconi Stadium. Meanwhile, John Moncur left the waiting crowd spellbound with a truly magnificent ball juggling routine which was worth double the admission money alone!
Hammers tested the water with a sweeper but with the laid back Hutchison running the show, Juric was soon forced to produce a series of wonder saves, as the Aussies found themselves under pressure.
Substitute Feuer showed he could do the business between the sticks too. But just as it looked like ending goalless. McPherson met Williamson's cross with a diving header to steal the winner with his first touch.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. May 1995,	Suncorp Stadium, Brisbane, Queensland			6998

Australia U-23..4 v. West Ham United (England)..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. West Ham United..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Frank Jurić						GK	Ian Feuer				
	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)	43(pk)					DF	Steven "Steve" Blaney				
	DF	Luke Casserly						DF	Simon Webster				
	DF	Mark Babic						DF	Adrian Whitbread				
	MF	Sean Cranney						DF	Kenneth "Kenny" Brown				
	MF	Ante Moric				82		MF	Donald "Don" Hutchison		X		
	MF	Goran Lozanovski	54			75		MF	Daniel "Danny" Williamson				
	MF	Peter Tsekenis						MF	Darren Currie				83
	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	56			60		FW	Malcolm McPherson				
	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				30		FW	Daniel "Danny" Shipp				
	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak						FW	Mark Watson				
						SUBSTITUTES							
	DF	Richie Alagich				60		MF	Gary Peters				83
	MF	Josip Skoko	83			75							
	FW	Ante Milicic				30, 77							
	MF	Vinko Buljubasic				82							
	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				77							

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	Harry Redknapp
Referee	Derek Crawford		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report by Steve Marsh (West Ham United supporters club)
The midweek departures of Potts, Breacker and Allen had decimated Hammers' squad before they had even touched down in Queensland for the return encounter with the Olyroos.
Although the agility of Feuer had kept it level going into the break, Muscat bagged a controversial penalty on 43 minutes after Webster unluckily fell on the ball.
Early in the second half Bacac's shot was parried by Feuer but Lozanovski gobbled up the rebound. And moments later Tiatto bagged a carbon copy third after Bacak had again seen his shot saved.
After that it was damage limitation. But when Brown slipped near the end, Skoko ensured that West Ham had gone down under. Down Under.

The "Hammers" were so depleted of players at the end of their tour that Gary Peters was asked to help out. Harry Redknapp met Gary Peters while sunbathing in Queensland. Gary was a young Youth Training Scheme player with Bournemouth who was trying his luck with the Australian team Palm Beach. Hours later the 19-year old was guesting for West Ham.
Gary had a brief spell with Brighton & Hove Albion before moving to Australia. It was his one and only appearance for the Hammers.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. August 1995,	King Fahd Stadium, Ta'if, Saudi Arabia	Hot and humid	35C	

Saudi Arabia U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Saudi Arabia U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Frank Jurić				
								DF	Kevin Muscat (c)				
								DF	Luke Casserly				
								DF	Mark Babic				30
								MF	Sean Cranney	32(og)			
								MF	Ante Moric				
			7					MF	Peter Tsekenis				
			34					MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				X**
								MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				
								FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak				X*
								FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				
SUBSTITUTES													
								DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis				30
								FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				X*
								MF	Goran Lozanovski				X**
Team Coach							Team Coach		Raul Blanco				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 16, Number 735, 22/8/1995, page 9

Australian coach Raul Blanco blamed searing heat and extreme humidity for his depleted side's lacklustre 3-0 loss to Saudi Arabia in an Under 23 friendly at Taif City last Friday.

Magnifying the Olyroos' problems, the team was without its four overseas players and lost full-back Vinko Buljubasic just hours before kick-off with a hamstring strain.

The visitors conceded three first-half goals and Blanco admitted afterwards that his side was lethargic and did not play to its potential.

He said the turning point came after 30 minutes when 21-year-old defender Mark Babic was forced off with a corked thigh with the side trailing to a seventh minute goal. He was replaced by Michael Valkanis.

Within four minutes of Babic's departure the Saudi's struck twice, including a cruel own goal after 32 minutes when a shot from the edge of the box took a wicked deflection off Sean Cranney's body to leave goalkeeper Frank Juric flat-footed. It was an unfortunate blow for Cranney who came in for Buljubasic.

"Babic had played very well for us against West Ham in our last two matches and it was a real blow to lose him at that stage, he's very important for our defence," Blanco said.

The match was played in 35 degree heat and near 100 per cent humidity - despite starting late in the evening - and the players struggled after only three days to adjust.

"We didn't acclimatise properly and it showed, we just didn't play to our potential, their legs were very heavy," Blanco said.

"But their character showed in the second half and they had two or three chances to hit back. When they came off they were totally exhausted and lost up to three-and-a-half kilos in sweat. The Saudi's had played nine internationals in the past six weeks at home so they were ready for us."

Blanco tried to engender more movement within his team, bringing on Goran Lozanovski and Brad Hassell for Gabriel Mendez, returning from injury, and striker Joe Bacak.

The Olyroos were without Glasgow Rangers defender Craig Moore, Dynamo Zagreb striker Mark Viduka, Bristol City striker Paul Agostino and Nottingham Forest midfielder Anthony Carbone, while West Adelaide midfielder Ross Aloisi did not travel because of injury.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. October 1995, 19.30	Bruce Stadium, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			1500

Australia U-23..3 v. Japan U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Japan U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Frank Jurić						GK	Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi				
	DF	Sean Cranney						DF	Tadahiro Akiba				
	DF	Ante Moric						DF	Kenichi Uemura				
	DF	Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis	64					DF	Toshimi Mikuchi				
	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)											
	MF	Goran Lozanovski						MF	Teruyoshi Ito (c)				
	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto											
	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak	63										
	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell											
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	77			70							
Team Coach							Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

The Olyroos squad included:-
Richard Watson, Mihalis "Michael" Valkanis, Bradley "Brad" Hassell, Goran Lozanovski, Clint Bolton, Sean Cranney, Daniele "Danny" Tiatto, Frank Juric, Joseph "Joe" Spiteri, Vinko Buljubasic, Paul Bilokapic, Ante Moric, Mark Babic, Robert Enes, Josip "Joe" Bačak, Norman "Norm" Tome, Peter Tsekenis, Frank Tibaldi, Richie Alagich, Ross Aloisi

The Japanes squad included:-
Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi, Takashi Shimoda, Kenichi Uemura, Selgo Marazaki, Hiroyuki Shirai, Yuji Hironaga, Makoka Tanaka, Tsohimi Mikuchi, Teruyoshi Ito, Tadotoshi Masuda, Tadahiro Akiba, Sotara Masunaga

The Canberra Times, 26/10/1995, page 22 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/130566431
match report from The Canberra Times,27/10/1995, page 28 http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/130566660
A second-half attacking blitz guided the Olyroos to a 3-0 win against the Japanese Olympic team in last night's soccer international at Bruce Stadium.
The score was locked at 0-0 until the 63rd minute when striker Joe Bacak put the finishing touch to a run from Goran Lozanovski up the right wing. Lozanovski, Adelaide City's speedy midfielder, delivered a curling cross to Brad Hassell, who poised himself to shoot, but the strike deflected off the Japanese keeper to Bacak inside the 6m box.
The Olyroos set the game alight after notching the first goal with several sweeping movements up both flanks.
Both of the Olyroos' attacking defenders, Sean Cranney and Ante Moric, found space to launch penetrating raids on Japan's wide midfielders.
The Olyroos took a 2-0 lead in the 64th minute after a dipping corner from Moric eluded the keeper to sit up perfectly for defender Michael Valkanis to pounce on.
The Japanese, to their credit, tried to counter-punch, but were denied by some brilliant goal keeping by Frank Juric.
Replacement forward Norman Tome put the result beyond doubt with a header after fine build-up work from Lozanovski.
Olyroos' coach Eddie Thomson was full of praise for his team, particularly as it had such a limited preparation.
"I thought we were clearly the better side, he said.
"I wasn't sure whether we'd score, but when it came, we finished off the game brilliantly.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 16, Number 745, 31/10/1995, page 4

The Olympic teams of Australia and Japan met at Bruce Stadium, Canberra last Thursday with the home side running out winners by three goals to Nil.

"We were the better side," declared Australian coach Eddie Thomson after goals by Joe Bacak, Michael Valkanis and Norman Tome had sent the 1,500 crowd away happy.

"Japan caught us a couple of times in the first half with their speed, and the captain Teruyoshi Ito is a quality player. I think the result reflected the difference between the sides."

After a goalless first half, Thomson admitted to a sinking feeling when Japanese goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi made a reaction save, from Brad Hassell, in the opening moments of the second half.

"I was beginning to think the goals would never come," the coach said.

That situation was righted just after the hour when Goran Lozanovski beat defender Tadahiro Akiba to set up Hassell.

Kawaguchi could only block Hassell's shot and Bacak pounced on the loose ball to score.

While that goal took 63 minutes to arrive, the second came in as many seconds.

Defender Valkanis, up for a Ante Moric corner, headed home at the far post. Substitute Tome, on the field for just seven minutes, staked his claim to a spot in the starting lineup, by powering home a Sean Cranney cross for number three, in the 77th minute.

Thomson said Tome and captain Kevin Muscat were his men of the match, with Danny Tiatto fading after an outstanding first half.

It was the Olyroos' final international workout before the Olympic Games qualifying tournament in Adelaide in January, but Thomson said the squad would come together for a camp in Canberra in December.

"I'll be hoping the Canberra Cosmos national league team will oblige us with a work-out then," he said.

Summary - Australia Olyroos 3 bt Japan Olympic 0 at Bruce Stadium, Canberra. H/T: 0-0.

Referee: Brett Hugo. Crowd 1,500.

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
13th. January 1996,	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			

Australia U-23..9 v. Vanuatu U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..3 v. Vanuatu U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Jurić					1	GK	Eddie Mansale				
4	DF	Mark Babic					3	DF	Bruno Nicholas				
5	DF	Craig Moore					4	DF	Frederick "Fred" Thompson				
13	MF	Ross Aloisi					5	DF	Sailas Yatan				70
	MF	Paul Bilokapic				60			Philip Molivaerua				
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis		X			10	DF	Arvi Obed				
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	28, 47(pk)				11	MF	Namatak Sailas				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	51			39	13	MF	Semu Karlyp				
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski				65	15	MF	Wilkins Simon Lauru				
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	30, 45, 65				16	FW	Etienne Mermer	66			
9	FW	Mark Viduka	62, 83				18	FW	George Kalo				
SUBSTITUTES													
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	72			60	9	DF	Jimmy Ben				70
16	DF	Luke Casserly				39							
14	FW	Ante Milicic				65							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Marco Herominly				
Team Manager		Peter Gray					Team Manager		Kalman Manlagai				
Referee		Intiaz Shah (Fiji)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

Bruno Nicholas - Vanuatu No.3 (from Yatel FC) is also shown as Bruno Nicolas, Nicholas Bruno and Brundak Nicolas.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 756, 16/1/1996, page 4
Australia made a flying start to the Olympic qualifying tournament at Hindmarsh Stadium last Saturday night with a 9-1 demolition of Vanuatu.
Melbourne Knights striker Joe Spiteri led the Olyroos attack with a hat-trick, Mark Viduka and Gabriel Mendez scored two goals apiece and Danny Tiatto and substitute Norman Tome both got on the scoresheet.
However the biggest cheer of the night was reserved for the 66th minute when Vanuatu striker Etienne Mermer sparked scenes of wild celebrations with his side's only goal.
Australia's overseas players were all prominent, with Viduka of Croatia Zagreb, Gabriel Mendez of Admira Wacker and Craig Moore of Glasgow Rangers all having good games.
Vanuatu held Australia out for 28 minutes through a combination of good luck and good management, but then the floodgates opened.
Viduka unselfishly laid off a pass for Mendez to score, with Spiteri grabbing his first two minutes later.
Just before halftime, Viduka provided a pinpoint cross for Spiteri to score his second and take Australia into the break with a comfortable 3-0 lead.
Just after half-time, an attempted cross was blocked by the hand of a Vanuatu defender, allowing Mendez to convert the penalty.
Four minutes later, Tiatto scored Australia's fifth with a powerful low drive through a nest of players. Viduka, the man who earned the name V-Bomber through his scoring exploits with Melbourne Knights, was forced to wait until the 62nd minute to score with a glancing header.
Just three minutes later Moore lobbed a cross to Viduka at the back post and he expertly placed it in the path of his former Knights team-mate Spiteri who converted to bring up a hat-trick.
After Vanuatu's surprise goal, Australia reorganised with a batch of subsitutions and two more goals - from substitute Norman Tome, whose weak shot rolled through the hands of the Vanuatu keeper, and another headed by Viduka.
Australian coach Eddie Thomson said he was upset with some tactical problems during the first half but was more satisfied in the second.
"In the first half we missed a few chances, we missed three or four good opportunities and the lads started to get a bit anxious," Thomson said.
"They got a really good kick up the backside at half-time I can tell you."
"A lot of things, the corners, set pieces - I was not happy at all, I could see one or two tactical things we needed."
AUSTRALIA: Juric, Aloisi, Moore, Babic, Bilokapic (Tome 60), Lazanovski (Milicic 65), Tiatto (Casserly 73), Tsekenis (YC), Mendez, Viduka, Spiteri.
VANUATU: Mansale, Nicholas, Thompson, Yalan (Ben 70), Molivaerva, Obed, Sailas, Karlyp, Lauru, Mermer, Kalo.
GOALS: Australia; Spiteri (30, 45, 65), Mendez (28, 47 pen), Viduka (62, 83), Tiatto (51), Tome (72). Vanuatu; Mermer (66).
REFEREE: Shah (Fiji).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group			
Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. January 1996,	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			

Australia U-23..4 v. Solomon Islands U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. Solomon Islands U-23..0

Norman Tome was not listed as a substitute for Australia on the teamsheet. As a result on the 23rd.January 1996 FIFA awarded the match to the Solomon Islands with a 2-0 scoreline.

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Clint Bolton					1	GK	John Solodia				
2	DF	Vinko Buljubasic				46*	3	DF	Gideon Omokirio		15		
3	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)	23				4	DF	Selson Molea				
5	DF	Craig Moore				46	6	DF	Peter Taka				
16	DF	Luke Casserly					15	DF	Sikele Buga				
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis					18	DF	Eddie Rukumana				
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	27(pk)				5	MF	Danny Wabo				77
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	88	47			7	MF	Moses Toata				
	MF	Paul Bilokapic					8	MF	Elliot Suri				58
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				62	9	MF	Robert Seni				
14	FW	Ante Milicic					11	FW	Richard Bobby				73
SUBSTITUTES													
13	MF	Ross Aloisi	47			46	19	MF	Maeli Lui				77
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski				46*	14	MF	Eddie Rifasia				58
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome				62	10	FW	Wilson Beuka				73
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Wilson Maelaua				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Kaltatak Kalokis (Vanuatu)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 757, 23/1/1996, page 2
Australia went to the top of the table with a comfortable win but Australian coach Thomson was not happy with the way his players performed.
"They played very ordinarily. The number of chances we've missed is very worrying," he said.
"We were shoddy and sloppy. The Solomons did well. They ran and chased but the boys (Olyroos) need a kick up the backside."
Resting star striker Mark Viduka and first choice 'keeper Frank Juric, the Olyroos still had too much polish for the eager Solomons who tried valiantly to make their mark on the game.
Captain Kevin Muscat put the Olyroos in front when he capitalised on the Islander's inability to clear from a corner kick to find space in the penalty area and shoot.
Three minutes later Solomons' defender Sikele Buga was penalised for a crude tackle on Danny Tiatto in the penalty area and Gabriel Mendez scored from the spot to take the wind out of the Solomons sails.
The Islanders showed promising patches during the match and demonstrated why they are considered the "Brazil of the Pacific" with a series of impressive counter attacks which kept Olyroo 'keeper Clint Bolton busy.
Richard Bobby had a great chance to score in the 17th minute but he lost control of the ball at the crucial moment and Bolton rescued Australia.
While the Solomon Islands remained ambitious and entertaining through the match, Australia's dominance was confirmed three minutes into the second half when West Adelaide's Ross Aloisi came off the bench to belt home Australia's third.
Aloisi ran onto a perfectly weighted cross from Ante Milicic to hit the ball past 'keeper John Solodia.
Tiatto scored with a diving header in the dying minutes of the match to complete the scoreline.
AUSTRALIA..4 SOLOMON ISLANDS..0
AUSTRALIA: Bolton, Moore (Aloisi 46), Muscat, Casserly, Bulubasic (Lozanovski), Tiatto, Spiteri (Tome 63), Milicic, Bilokapic, Tsekenis, Mendez.
SOLOMON ISLANDS: Solodia, Omokirio, Molea, Taka, Wabo (Lui 77), Toata, Suri (Rifasia 58), Seni, Bobby (Beuka 73), Buga, Rukumana.
SCORERS: Australia: Muscat (23), Mendez (26 pen), Aloisi (47), Tiatto (90).
YELLOW CARDS: Australia; Tiatto (47). Solomon Islands; Omokirio (15).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
19th. January 1996,			Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia										
Australia U-23..10 v. Fiji U-23..0													
half time, Australia U-23..3 v. Fiji U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Juric					22	GK	Joela Baledrokadroka				
3	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					3	DF	Jope Leka Namawa		50		
4	DF	Mark Babic					5	DF	Jope Naquruwati		9		
5	DF	Craig Moore					11	DF	William Work				
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis					12	DF	Waisea Nabenu		51		
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	50(pk), 64				4	MF	Esala Masinisau		50		
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				54	13	MF	Emosi Baleinuku		15	46	
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski	63, 65	73			8	FW	Waisale Rasoki				
13	MF	Ross Aloisi	32			39	9	FW	Manoa Raiyawa Masi				
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				71	10	FW	Livai Duguca				58
9	FW	Mark Viduka	29, 76				17	FW	Kameli Kilawaca		62		48
SUBSTITUTES													
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	81, 83			39	16	FW	Akuila Bulewa				58, 85
	MF	Paul Bilokapic				54	14	DF	Apolosa Qata				85
14	FW	Ante Milicic	71			71	2		Pita Bokini				48
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Billy Singh				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Derek Rugg (New Zealand)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

Esala Masinisau is also shown as Esala Masi. Jope Leka Namawa is also shown as Joape Namawa.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 757, 23/1/1996, page 2
Australia reaffirmed its status as Oceania's soccer powerhouse with a 10-0 massacre of the previously unbeaten Fiji.
Fiji were no match for the more skilled Olyroos in a spiteful clash which resulted in one Fiji player being sent off and another five being cautioned by New Zealand referee Derek Rugg.
A glancing header from Mark Viduka and a score after a goal area scramble from Ross Aloisi in the first half set Australia up to inflict the drubbing.
Fiji, lost the plot a minute into the second half when defender Emosi Baleinuku was sent off for a second bookable offence.
The Olyroos scored three goals in three minutes in a mesmorising spell as Fiji fell apart. Bad challenges on Gabriel Mendez and Danny Tiatto nearly put the match beyond the referee's control.
Tempers soon settled and having put away a penalty in the 50th minute, Mendez booted a second past 'keeper Joela Baledrokadroka 14 minutes later with Goran Lozanovski scoring twice in three minutes to complete the purple patch.
Lozanovski's double, one from the goal line and the other after finding space in the area to shoot wide of the 'keeper, was a deserved reward for what was arguably his best match for the season.
"He was brilliant. He's come from nearly being out of the squad to being on the verge of Socceroo selection," coach Eddie Thomson said of Lozanovski after the game.
Playing in the unfamiliar role of fullback, he fed off the silky skills of Mendez who dominated midfield all match.
The match turned into a training drill for Australia with the last four goals, by Viduka and Ante Milicic and two to substitute Norman Tome, all coming with no pressure applied to the forwards.
AUSTRALIA..10 FIJI..0
AUSTRALIA: Juric, Muscat, Babic, Moore, Tsekenis, Spiteri (Milicic 71), Viduka, Mendez, Tiatto (Bilokapic 54), Lozanovski, Aloisi (Tome 39).
FIJI: Baledrokadroka, Leka, E.Masi, Naqurunati, Rasoki, M.Masi, Duguca (Bulewa 58) (Gata 85), Work, Nabenu, Baleinuku, Kilaiwaca (Bokini 48).
SCORERS: Australia; Viduka (29, 76), Aloisi (32), Mendez (50 pen, 64), Lozanovski (63, 65), Milicic (71), Tome (81, 83).
YELLOW CARDS: Australia; Lozanovski (73). Fiji; Naqurunati (9), Baleinuku (15), Leka (50), Masi (50), Nabenu (51), Kilaiwaca (62).
RED CARD: Fiji; Baleinuku (46).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
21st. January 1996,			Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia										
Australia U-23..5 v. New Zealand U-23..0													
half time, Australia U-23..3 v. New Zealand U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Juric					1	GK	Mark Paston				
3	DF	Kevin Muscat				69	2	DF	Jonathan Perry				
4	DF	Mark Babic					4	DF	Daniel Hay				76
5	DF	Craig Moore					5	DF	Che Bunce				
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis					8	DF	Gavin Wilkinson		29		
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				46	6	MF	Ivan Vicelich				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto					7	MF	Aaran Lines				
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski	20				3	MF	Neil Harlock				
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	1, 16, 55				10	MF	Sean Fallon				58
9	FW	Mark Viduka	57	X			11	MF	Simon Elliott				
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome					12	MF	Mark Burton				
SUBSTITUTES													
16	DF	Luke Casserly				69	16	MF	Jeremy Seales				76
	MF	Paul Bilokapic				46	9	FW	Mark Foy				58
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Bobby Clark				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Intaz Shah (Fiji)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 757, 23/1/1996, page 4
Australia belted arch-rival New Zealand 5-0.
A hat-trick to striker Joe Spiteri was his second of the tournament.
The Kiwis had not touched the ball before Spiteri put the home side in front inside a minute when he glanced a header at the near post past Mark Paston after Goran Lozanovski set the cross up with a brilliant ball to Danny Tiatto.
An inspirational pass from Mark Viduka threaded Spiteri through for his second in the 15th minute which he tucked past the 'keeper with ease.
Paston's nightmare got worse five minutes later when Lozanovski, arguably the player of the tournament, waltzed through the midfield and cracked a shot on the run from 30 yards which dipped under the crossbar.
Gabriel Mendez provided the spark for the Olyroos early but he injured his knee in a clash with an opponent and was substituted at half time.
While some of the edge was taken out of the Olyroo midfield, the goals did not dry up with Spiteri clinching his hat-trick, which followed his treble against Vanuatu in round one, 10 minutes into the second half when he used his body to work his way into a point blank scoring position and volley home.
Viduka got on the goal sheet two minutes later when he pounced on a poor attempt by New Zealand to clear the ball.
New Zealand, potent from the set pieces in its 9-1 rout of Vanuatu, also troubled Australia from dead ball situations but was comprehensively beaten in every department.
The Kiwis came close to scoring when Craig Burton beat Australian 'keeper Frank Juric to a cross in the 60th minute but the ball sailed inches over the crossbar.
AUSTRALIA..5 NEW ZEALAND..0
AUSTRALIA: Juric, Lozanovski, Babic, Muscat (Casserly 69), Moore, Mendez (Bilokapic 46), Tsekenis, Tome, Spiteri, Viduka, Tiatto.
NEW ZEALAND: Paston, Perry, Harlock, Hay (Seales 76), Bunce, Vicelich, Lines, Wilkinson, Fallon (Foy 58), Elliot, Burton.
SCORERS: Australia; Spiteri (1, 16, 55), Lozanovski (20), Viduka (57).
YELLOW CARDS: New Zealand; Wilkinson (29).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
25th. January 1996, 20.00	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			

Australia U-23..12 v. Vanuatu U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..7 v. Vanuatu U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Clint Bolton						GK	Raymond Timothy				
2	DF	Vinko Buljubasic					3	DF	Bruno Nicholas				
4	DF	Mark Babic					4	DF	Frederick "Fred" Thompson				
5	DF	Craig Moore				46	5	DF	Sailas Yatan				
16	DF	Luke Casserly							Philip Molivaerua				
17	DF	Richie Alagich					7	DF	Martin Malessas				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	72				10	DF	Arvi Obed				
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski	29, 79, 88				11	MF	Namatak Sailas				44
	MF	Paul Bilokapic	2, 56				16	FW	Etienne Mermer				
14	FW	Ante Milicic	6, 31			67	18	FW	George Kalo				
	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak	21, 39, 44					FW	Joe Kalo				64
SUBSTITUTES													
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	61			46	20	FW	John Karl				44
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				67	17	FW	Collin Brown				64

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	Marco Herominly
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Derek Rugg (New Zealand)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Raymond Timothy the Vanuatu goalkeeper is also shown as Timothy G. Remo (No.2) (from Mauwia FC).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. January 1996,	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			

Australia U-23..7 v. Solomon Islands U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..4 v. Solomon Islands U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Juric					1	GK	John Solodia				
3	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					2	DF	Wilfred Suraau		X		
4	DF	Mark Babic					3	DF	Gideon Omokirio				
5	DF	Craig Moore	14	X			6	DF	Peter Taka				56
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis					16	DF	Cliff Sasau				
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez	40(pk), 90				18	DF	Eddie Rukumana				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				46	9	MF	Robert Seni		X		
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski				46*	14	MF	Eddie Rifasia		X		
13	MF	Ross Aloisi					11	FW	Richard Bobby		X		
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri	30, 48				12	FW	Sam Dara		X		78
9	FW	Mark Viduka	42			69	13	FW	Freddie Farodo		X		46
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Josip "Joe" Bačak				69	19	MF	Maeli Lui				56
16	DF	Luke Casserly	51			46	10	FW	Wilson Beuka				78
17	DF	Richie Alagich				46*	8	MF	Elliot Suri				46

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	Wilson Maelaua
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Intaz Shah (Fiji)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
29th. January 1996,			Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia										
Australia U-23..5 v. Fiji U-23..0													
half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Fiji U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Juric					22	GK	Joela Baledrokadroka				
3	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					2		Pita Bokini				
4	DF	Mark Babic					3	DF	Jope Leka Namawa				
5	DF	Craig Moore					5	DF	Jope Naquruwati				
7	MF	Peter Tsekenis				79	11	DF	William Work				X
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				46	12	DF	Waisea Nabenu				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto	70				14	DF	Apolosa Qata				
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski	80				4	MF	Esala Masinisau				
13	MF	Ross Aloisi	4	49		81	9	MF	Manoa Raiyawa Masi				
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri		54			13	MF	Emosi Baleinuku				
9	FW	Mark Viduka	59				18		Asesela Rauge				
SUBSTITUTES													
17	DF	Richie Alagich				79	17	FW	Kameli Kilawaca				X
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	90+2			46							
16	DF	Luke Casserly				81							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach		Billy Singh				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Massimo Raveino (Tahiti)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 759, 6/2/1996, page 4
Australia had a workman-like 5-0 win against Fiji.
Local hero Ross Aloisi gave Australia the start it wanted when he latched onto a deflected throw-in and sent a header flashing into the net with only three minutes played.
The small crowd at Hindmarsh Stadium had to wait until the 57th minute for striker Mark Viduka to advance the scoreline.
Midfielder Goran Lozanovski hit a low cross, which fell nicely for Viduka.
Fiji nipped at the heals of Australia all night and midfielder Danny Tiatto had his shins autographed with the studs of a procession of Fiji players.
But the live-wire Olyroo had the last laugh when he made it 3-0 by shirking off some heavy challenges and planting a dipping shot into the net with 69 minutes gone.
Lozanovski gave the home town crowd something to shout about when he rammed a daisy cutter through a packed Fiji rearguard and inside the post to make it 4-0.
Tiatto was again in action in the dying minutes when he headed to Norm Tome and the substitute nodded the ball into the net.
Esala Masi gave Fiji some hope early in the game when he hit a swirling free kick that crashed into the side netting.
AUSTRALIA: Juric, Muscat, Babic, Moore, Tsekenis (Alagich 79), Spiteri, Viduka, Mendez (Tome 46), Tiatto, Lozanovski, Aloisi (Casserly 81).
FIJI: Baledrokadroka, Bolini, Leka, E.Masi, Naquruwati, M.Masi, Work (Kilaiwaca), Nabenu, Baleinuku, Gata, Rauge.
SCORERS: Australia; Aloisi (4), Viduka (59), Tiatto (70), Lozanovski (80), Tome (92).
YELLOW CARDS: Australia; Aloisi (49), Spiteri (54).

Olympic Games Qualifying round, Oceania Group													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
31st. January 1996,			Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia										
Australia U-23..0 v. New Zealand U-23..1													
half time, Australia U-23..0 v. New Zealand U-23..0													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Clint Bolton					1	GK	Mark Paston				
3	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)					2	DF	Jonathan Perry				
5	DF	Craig Moore		77			4	DF	Daniel Hay				
17	DF	Richie Alagich					5	DF	Che Bunce				
16	DF	Luke Casserly					8	DF	Gavin Wilkinson				65
12	MF	Goran Lozanovski				46	6	MF	Ivan Vicelich		85		
10	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez					7	MF	Aaron Lines				
11	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				46*	10	MF	Sean Fallon				
15	FW	Norman "Norm" Tome					11	MF	Simon Elliott	55			
8	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri					3	MF	Neil Harlock		71		
14	FW	Ante Milicic				46**	9	FW	Mark Foy				89
SUBSTITUTES													
4	DF	Mark Babic				46	16	MF	Jeremy Seales				65
	MF	Paul Bilokapic				46*	17	FW	Stuart "Stu" Riddle				89
9	FW	Mark Viduka				46**							
Team Coach		Eddie Thomson					Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Massimo Raveino (Tahiti)											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 759, 6/2/1996, page 4
New Zealand's Under 23 side celebrated well into the morning after securing an upset 1-0 victory over Oceania champion Australia.
It was sweet revenge for the 5-0 thrashing the Olyroos had dished out to their traditional rivals earlier in the series.
New Zealand pulled level on points with the Olyroos but it was the Australians who advanced to the next round because of a vastly superior goal difference.
All Whites coach Bobby Clark said it was an especially satisfying win considering the tight budget he was operating on and the limited preparation his young players had received.
"For the past four or five weeks we've worked very hard and have put together something on a shoestring."
"We came here for the experience and we've grown as the tournament went on and this is the trouble with New Zealand - usually at the end of the tournament we've made ourselves into a team," he said.
Simon Elliott scored the only goal of the game in the 55th minute with a stunning long range strike.
Although Thomson conceded that New Zealand had played the best soccer on the night he said if the Olyroos had needed a win he would have played a stronger line-up and secured a result.
"One team wanted to win and one team was hoping to win, they competed hard and fought hard and were typical Kiwis and deserved the win," he said.
NZ: Paston, Perry, Harlock, Hay, Bunce, Vicelich, Lines, Wilkinson (Seales 65), Foy (Riddle 89), Fallon, Elliott.
AUSTRALIA: Bolton, Muscat, Moore, Alagich, Casserly, Lozanovski (Babic 46), Mendez, Tiatto (Bilokapic 46), Tome, Spiteri, Milicic (Viduka 46).
SCORER: NZ: Elliott (55).
YELLOW CARDS: AUSTRALIA; Moore (77). NZ; Harlock (71), Vicelich (85).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
16th. May 1996,	Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A.			

Indianapolis XI..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, Indianapolis XI..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								FW	Paul Agostino	44, 88			
								FW	Norman "Norm" Tome	73			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Sydney Morning Herald, 17/5/1996
The Australian Olyroos slipped and slid their way to a comfortable 3-0 victory (Paul Agostino 2, Norman Tome 1) over an Indianapolis Select side in their first American tour match yesterday.
Steady rain and long grass on the pitch made conditions difficult for both teams but the Australians adapted far more quickly and were never in danger of defeat or conceding a goal.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. May 1996,	Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A.			2211

U.S.A. Olympic XI..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, U.S.A.Olympic XI..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Zach Thornton						GK	Frank Juric				
	DF	Brandon Pollard						DF	Kevin Muscat				
	DF	George "Eddie" Pope						DF	Mark Babic				
	DF	Frank "Frankie" Hejduk						DF	Hayden Foxe				
	MF	Matthew "Matt" McKeon						MF	Goran Lozanovski				38
	MF	Michael "Mike" Fisher				46		MF	Ante Moric				59
	MF	Brian Maisonneuve						MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				78
	MF	Imad Baba				57		MF	Peter Tsekenis				
	FW	Hamisi Amani-Dove						MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				
	FW	Anthony "A.J." Wood						FW	Paul Agostino				46
	FW	Miles Joseph				69		FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				68
						SUBSTITUTES							
	MF	Billy Walsh				46		MF	Luke Casserly				38
	FW	Nelson Vargas				57		MF	Ross Aloisi				59
	FW	Cuauhtemoc "Temoc" Suarez				69		MF	Robert "Robbie" Enes				78
								FW	Mark Viduka	52, 57			46
								FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				68

Team Coach	Bruce Arena	Team Coach	Les Scheinflug
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Ted Covaciu (U.S.A.)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from The Deseret News, 20/5/1996, page D8
The United States, thoroughly outplayed in the second half, lost to Australia 2-0 Sunday in an Olympic soccer tuneup.
Substitute forward Mark Viduka scored in the 53rd and 58th minutes for Australia, dropping the record of the U.S. under-23 team this year to 4-3-3 after a 4-0-2 start.
"You have to give the Australians credit," U.S. coach Bruce Arena said. "Their soccer wasn't great but their effort was. What Australia was about today is what we aspire to be."
Australia will play two games with Canada for the final Olympic berth - May 26 at Edmonton and June 2 at Sydney.
This was the first time the U.S. team played as a unit since March.
The squad plans to make roster cuts the week of May 27, adding three wildcard players from the national team for the U.S. - Ireland Olympic tuneup on June 1.
Goalkeeper Kasey Keller is expected to be one addition. The others under consideration are defenders Alexi Lalas and Marcelo Balboa, midfielder Claudio Reyha and forwards Ernie Stewart and Eric Wynalda.
"We need to stop experimenting and get our team down to a workable number," Arena said.
He said the addition of the three overage players allowed by soccer's governing body will help his team in several ways.
"We happen to have a bunch of quiet personalities on this team now," Arena said.
In the 53rd minute, Viduka opened the scoring when U.S. goalkeeper Zach Thornton left his line after the Aussie had beaten the U.S. defense. Five minutes later, Thornton found himself in the same situation and made the same mistake, with Viduka shifting for a left-footed kick into the open net.
The Americans' best scoring opportunity came in the 80th minute, but midfielder Frankie Hejduk was unable to score from 12 yards in front of the goal.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 773, 21/5/1996, page 3
Mark Viduka, Australia's giant targetman, came on in the second half to substitute striker Paul Agostino, and promptly helped himself to a brace of goals to lift our Olympic team to a sound 0-2 win last night over the Olympic host nation played at Indianapolis.
The Australian side suffered minor knocks to wide defenders Goran Lozanovski and Ante Moric forcing assistant coach Les Scheinflug to replace them as a precaution with Luke Casserly and Ross Aloisi.
Scheinflug made a total of five substitutions also bringing on Brad Hassell, Robbie Enes and Viduka.
Viduka's strikes hit the target in the 52nd and 57th minutes to have the USA side struggling.
Australia's line-up yesterday against the USA Olympic team was:
Goalkeeper: Juric.
Sweeper: Muscat.
Twin-Markers: Babic and Foxe.
Midfield: Lozanovski (Casserly), Mendez (Enes), Tsekenis, Moric (Aloisi), Tiatto.
Strikers: Spiteri (Hassell), Agostino (Viduka 46th).

Olympic Games Qualifying, CONCACAF - OFC Play-off, 1st. leg

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. May 1996,	Commonwealth Stadium, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada			13000

Canada U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Canada U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
18	GK	Paul Shepherd					1	GK	Frank Juric				
2	DF	Richard Hikida (c)					2	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)				
4	DF	Nevio Pizzolitto					3	DF	Mark Babic				
5	DF	Jason de Vos					4	DF	Hayden Foxe				
6	MF	Scott Macey					5	MF	Goran Lozanovski				
11	MF	Martin Nash				46	6	MF	Ante Moric				
16	MF	Chris Franks		X		75	7	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				68
9	FW	Niall Thompson					8	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				
10	FW	Davide Xausa	21, 88				9	MF	Peter Tsekenis				
15	FW	Carmine D'Onofrino					10	FW	Mark Viduka	53, 59			79
17	FW	Oliver Heald				57	11	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri		X		
SUBSTITUTES													
14	FW	Antonio "Tony" Capasso				46	12	MF	Ross Aloisi				68
3	DF	Richard Sumner				75	17	FW	Bradley "Brad" Hassell				79
7	FW	Linus Rhode				57							

Team Coach	Bob Lenarduzzi	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Kim Milton Nielsen (Denmark)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Jason de Vos is also shown as Jason Devos.

Olympic Games Qualifying, CONCACAF - OFC Play-off, 2nd. leg

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
2nd. June 1996,	Sydney Football Stadium, Moore Park, Sydney, New South Wales			25809

Australia U-23..5 v. Canada U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Canada U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Frank Juric					18	GK	Paul Shepherd				
2	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)	87				2	DF	Richard Hikida (c)				
3	DF	Mark Babic					4	DF	Nevio Pizzolitto		X		
4	DF	Hayden Foxe	16				5	DF	Jason de Vos				
5	MF	Goran Lozanovski	58			83	6	MF	Scott Macey				37
6	MF	Ante Moric					16	MF	Chris Franks				73
7	MF	Gabriel "Chi Chi" Mendez				24	9	FW	Niall Thompson				
8	MF	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto		X			10	FW	Davide Xausa				62
9	MF	Peter Tsekenis					14	FW	Antonio "Tony" Capasso				
10	FW	Mark Viduka	82				15	FW	Carmine D'Onofrino		X		
11	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				68	17	FW	Oliver Heald		X		
SUBSTITUTES													
15	MF	Luke Casserly				83	11	MF	Martin Nash				37
16	MF	Robert "Robbie" Enes		X		24	13	FW	Troy Wood				62
19	FW	Paul Agostino	85			68	7	FW	Linus Rhode				73

Team Coach	Eddie Thomson	Team Coach	Bob Lenarduzzi
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Ali Mohd Bujsaim (United Arab Emirates)		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group 'B'

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. July 1996, 18.30	Miami Orange Bowl, Miami, Florida, U.S.A.			14322

France U-23..2 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, France U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Lionel Letizi		89			1	GK	Frank Juric				
2	DF	Martin Djetou					4	DF	Mark Babic				
3	DF	Jerome Bonnissel					5	DF	Kevin Muscat		11		
5	DF	Patrick Moreau					6	DF	Steven "Steve" Horvat (Overage)		76		79
13	DF	Vincent Candela					15	DF	Luke Casserly				
7	MF	Claude Makelele		25			3	MF	Ante Moric				
8	MF	Vikash Dhorasoo		35			8	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
14	MF	Olivier Dacourt				46	9	FW	Mark Viduka				70
9	FW	Florian Maurice	75			79	10	FW	Aurelio Vidmar (Overage)		5		
11	FW	Robert Pires	13	65		89	11	FW	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto			24	
18	FW	Sylvain Legwinsky					14	FW	Paul Agostino				
SUBSTITUTES													
4	DF	Florent Laville					2	MF	Goran Lozanovski				
6	DF	Patrick Vieira					7	MF	Peter Tsekenis				
10	MF	Antoine Sibierski				46	12	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				70
12	DF	Geoffray Toyes					13	DF	Hayden Foxe				
15	FW	Tony Vairelles		84		79	16	MF	Robert "Robbie" Enes				
16	GK	Vincent Fernandez					17	MF	Ross Aloisi				79
17	FW	Sylvain Wiltord				89	18	GK	Michael Petkovic				

Team Coach	Raymond Domenech	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Roberto Ruben Ruscio (Argentina)		
Assistant Referee 1	Jeon Young Hyun (Korea Republic)		
Assistant Referee 2	Carlos Velazquez (Uruguay)		

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 783, 23/7/1996, page 5

Australia had a cool start to its opening Olympic soccer game going down 2-0 to France in blast furnace heat, after losing livewire Danny Tiatto to a red card early in the game.

In the stifling Miami Orange Bowl the Olyroos made a bright start taking the game to the highly fancied Franch.

But their confidence was shattered when Robert Pires pounced on a low cross, drilling it through a static Australian defence, past an unsighted Frank Juric.

The Australians were 1-0 down with only 12 minutes played and the nightmare was to continue.

Midfielder Tiatto lunged into French dangerman Claude Mkelele and Argentinian referee Ruben Ruscio added to Australia's misery when he drew a red card sending Tiatto for an early shower in the 21st minute.

Makelele was stretchered from the ground and later received a yellow card for returning to the pitch without permission.

After that the Olyroo attacks became more sporadic while the French lifted in confidence running at the Australians.

Paul Agostino sent a whipping free kick goalwards but it clipped the defensive wall and he had to be content to see it go wide.

The French beat a steady path to the Australian goalmouth, after that and Juric was forced to deflect a stinging Florian Maurice drive just before the break.

Agostino hit a tidy cross that went past the outstretched boot of Mark Viduka early in the second half, but after that Australia's chances were few and far between.

Maurice drew through the heart of the Australian defence, hitting a daisy cutter which Juric deflected and Steve Horvat could only help into the net.

Tiatto receives an automatic one game suspension and will miss Monday's game against Saudi Arabia, who went down 1-0 to Spain.

The Melbourne Knights midfielder said the foul which resulted in his sending off was never intentional.

"I had no intention of running into the other player, I just made a play on the ball," he said.

"I understand the referee's decision but it should have been a yellow card not the red. Earlier there were several other players involved in similar tackles and they were not sent off."

AUSTRALIA: Frank Juric (Melbourne Knights), Steve Horvat (Hajduk Split), Mark Babic (Sydney United), Kevin Muscat (South Melbourne), Luke Casserley (Marconi), Ante Moric (Sydney United), Steve Corica (Wolves), Aurelio Vidmar (Feyenoord), Danny Tiatto (Melbourne Knights), Paul Agostino (Bristol City), Mark Viduka (Croatia Zagreb).

Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group 'B'

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. July 1996, 19.00	Miami Orange Bowl, Miami, Florida, U.S.A.			5997

Saudi Arabia U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Saudi Arabia U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Hussein Al-Sadeq					1	GK	Frank Juric				
2	DF	Mohammed Al-Jahani					4	DF	Mark Babic				
4	DF	Mohammed Al-Khlaiwi	37				5	DF	Kevin Muscat (c)				
5	DF	Abdullah Al-Zebermawi		49			15	DF	Luke Casserly				
8	DF	Hussein Al-Sulaimani				26	3	MF	Ante Moric		62		
6	MF	Fuad Anwar Amin (c)					7	MF	Peter Tsekenis	12			
10	MF	Ibrahim Al-Harbi					8	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
13	MF	Khalid Al-Rashaid					17	MF	Ross Aloisi				
14	MF	Abdullah Al-Karni				26*	9	FW	Mark Viduka	63			80
9	FW	Hamza Falatah					10	FW	Aurelio Vidmar (Overage)				
11	FW	Obeid Al-Dosari					12	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri		66		
SUBSTITUTES													
3	DF	Abdullah Alwaked Al-Shahrani					2	MF	Goran Lozanovski				
7	MF	Khamis Al-Zahrani					6	DF	Steven "Steve" Horvat (Overage)				
12	MF	Hussain Al-Masaari					11	FW	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				
15	DF	Abdul Aziz Al-Marzouk				26, 70	13	DF	Hayden Foxe				
16	MF	Khamis Alowairan Al-Dossari				26*	14	FW	Paul Agostino				
17	FW	Rahman Abdul Sifeen		81		70	16	MF	Robert "Robbie" Enes				80
18	GK	Rashed Al-Mugren					18	GK	Michael Petkovic				

Team Coach	Ivo Wortmann	Team Coach	Eddie Thomson
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Esfandiar Baharmast (U.S.A.)		
Assistant Referee 1	Amir Osman Mohamed Hamid (Sudan)		
Assistant Referee 2	Peter Kelly (Trinidad & Tobago)		

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 784, 30/7/1996, page 5

Australia's Olyroos turned on the power to outlast Saudi Arabia and win a heart-stopping soccer drama 2-1 at the Orange Bowl in Miami last Tuesday morning Australian time. Australia had a long list of heroes but nobody was more impressive than large than life goalkeeper Frank Juric who saved a decisive second half penalty just after Australia had edged into the lead.

"I waited until I saw the whites of his eyes and waited until he kicked the ball and luckily got a hand to it, and it went round the post," a beaming Juric said after the game.

Coach Eddie Thomson said there was nothing enjoyable for him about watching the nerve-wracking game from the touchline.

"But we showed tonight that we had nerves of steel, especially in the last 20 minutes."

Peter Tsekenis gave Australia the start it wanted with a crashing drive in the 12th minute, but the multi-skilled Saudis pulled level with a clinical header from Mohammed Al Khilaiwi after 37th minutes.

Mark Viduka brought a touch of class to the game when he backheeled a Joe Spiteri cross into the bottom left hand corner 20 minutes after the break.

The win kept Australia's Olympic dreams alive as the Olyroos had lost their opening game 2-0 to France.

Spain, which beat the Saudis 1-0 in their opening group game, drew 1-1 with France in Orlando which threw the group wide open.

The Orange Bowl game was played at a frantic pace, was riddled with errors, had patches of brilliance and was bubbling with commitment from both sides.

When Fuad Anwar Amin smashed a wicked shot which Juric brilliantly tipped onto the woodwork 30 minutes into the first term the Australians in the 6,000 crowd were on the edge of their seats and it wouldn't be for the last time.

The Saudi skipper smashed the woodwork again 40 minutes later and his side still had plenty to offer.

Just to make sure nobody left the stadium early, Australian skipper Kevin Muscat, who was one of the best on the field, upended Obied Al-Dossary to concede an unforgiveable penalty.

While Muscat was the immediate villain, the opposition captain had no time to gloat, when Juric pulled off his brilliant save from the spot kick.

Between all that drama, Aurelio Vidmar deflected a header onto the underside of the crossbar as both sides went at each other.

Late in the game, Vidmar appeared to be obstructed by Hussain Al Sadig as he stormed into the penalty area.

The keeper then wrapped him up, but referee Esfandir Baharnasd from the USA waved play on much to the disgust of the Aussies.

"You're just not allowed to go in and clean people up like that, he missed the ball completely and wiped Aurelio out," said Thomson.

"Maybe they have changed the rules as it was a dead set penalty."

"I thought the team showed a lot of guts and determination and there was no way in the world they were going to beat us tonight. We looked dangerous every time we attacked, and could have got six or seven goals. I am delighted with the win."

Olympic Games finals, Group Stage, Group 'B'													
Date & Time			Venue				Weather			Temperature		Attendance	
24th. July 1996, 19.00			Citrus Bowl, Orlando, U.S.A.									12050	
Spain U-23..3 v. Australia U-23..2													
half time, Spain U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..2													
No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Juan Luis Mora Palacios					1	GK	Frank Juric				
2	DF	Gaizka Mendieta Zabala				32	4	DF	Mark Babic				
3	DF	Agustin Aranzábal Alkorta		56			5	DF	Kevin Muscat				
4	DF	Francisco Javier "Javi" Vicente Navarro		28			6	DF	Steven "Steve" Horvat (Overage)				
5	DF	Santiago "Santi" Denia Sánchez	87	21			15	DF	Luke Casserly				
12	DF	Aitor Karanka de la Hoz					3	MF	Ante Moric		25		56
6	MF	Óscar "Óscar" Garcia Junyent					7	MF	Peter Tsekenis				
7	MF	Raúl González Blanco "Raúl"	41, 90				8	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica				
10	MF	José Ignacio Sáenz Marin				60	9	FW	Mark Viduka				
14	FW	Fernando Morientes Sánchez		69		70	10	FW	Aurelio Vidmar (Overage)	3, 12	61		72
18	FW	Daniel "Dani" Garcia Lara					12	FW	Joseph "Joe" Spiteri				36
SUBSTITUTES													
8	MF	Roberto Luis Fresnedoso Prieto "Roberto"					2	MF	Goran Lozanovski		74		72
9	DF	Sergio Corino Ramón					11	FW	Daniele "Danny" Tiatto				36
11	MF	Iñigo Idiákez Barkaiztegi				70	13	DF	Hayden Foxe				
13	GK	Jorge Aizkorreta Jurado					14	FW	Paul Agostino				
15	MF	Iván de la Peña López				60	16	MF	Robert "Robbie" Enes				
16	FW	Jordi Lardin Cruz					17	MF	Ross Aloisi				56
17	DF	José Manuel Suárez Rivas "Sietes"					18	GK	Michael Petkovic				
Team Coach		Javier Clemente					Team Coach		Eddie Thomson				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Hugh Dallas (Scotland)											
Assistant Referee 1		Luis Fernando Torres Zuniga (Costa Rica)											
Assistant Referee 2		Dramane Dante (Mali)											

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 17, Number 784, 30/7/1996, page 7

Australia's Olympic soccer dream evaporated in the muggy heat of Orlando's Citrus Bowl as the Olyroos wilted in the final minutes of their do-or-die match against Spain, going down 3-2.

The loss allowed Spain and France to advance to the quarter-finals but the Olyroos could instead have been on the way to Birmingham, Alabama, but for some poor finishing and cruel luck.

It was a titanic struggle and Australia, which needed to win to go through to the quarter finals, had a 2-1 lead until the 86th minute and then buckled under intense pressure.

Olyroo coach Eddie Thomson said his charges had fought their hearts out, but lacked the clinical finishing of the star-studded Spanish side.

"We missed both our chances to kill the game and unfortunately when you miss your chances you've got to pay for it," Thomson said after the game.

"I thought they were dead and buried but just three minutes killed us off." The Olyroos made a superb start to the game when Luke Casserly found Mark Viduka who in turn steered it to Aurelio Vidmar.

Before the Spanish defence contemplated tackling him, he lashed the ball into the net and Australia had a 1-0 lead with only three minutes on the clock.

Spain bounced back immediately and Oscar Garcia hit a wicked drive that Frank Juric did well to turn past the post.

Before the crowd had time to catch its breath Australia had a 2-0 lead after a Steve Corica shot deflected off goalkeeper Juan Mora and the ball spun goalwards.

Vidmar tussled for the ball with Vincente Navarro and it was bundled over the line, the striker creditted with getting a touch to it at the 12 minute mark.

Australia then took its foot off the throttle and while it did not panic it was more content to move into reverse.

The Olyroos paid the penalty for backing off when Raul Gonzalez hit a curling drive around the defensive wall and beyond the reach of Juric making it 2-1.

It was a world class effort from the Real Madrid striker and it took the psychological edge from Australia before the half time break.

After the interval Corica advanced on the Spanish goal, but with the chance to make it 3-1, he took the ball around the advancing keeper and too wide of the goal.

Vidmar then had the chance of a hat-trick but slammed his shot into the keeper, then spooned the rebound over the bar.

From then on Australia was in retreat with Spain swarming forward in numbers.

Thomson said the Olyroos thought they were approaching the finish line well before the finish of the race.

"But if we had scored then it was all over, Spain would have been on the bus," Thomson said.

However, it was not all over and Spain kicked, probed and teased the Australian back line before eventually finding the gap it wanted.

With four minutes to play, Garcia hit a drive that rebounded off Juric's chest.

The ball fell for Santiago Denia who mis-hit it through the keepers' legs.

At 2-2 Australia pressed forward and was always exposed to the counter attack.

In injury time the Olyroos were punished when Ivan De La Pena made a weaving run and crossed to Raul who headed home sweetly to finish the scoring at 3-2.

Thomson said if his men had to play Spain again tomorrow it would be of no concern to them.

"Australia has proved tonight that it can play against anybody, they have got Raul and De La Pena and all those superstars and believe me, they got out of jail tonight," he said.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. November 1996,	Secunda Sports Stadium, Secunda, Republic of South Africa			9000

Republic of South Africa U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Republic of South Africa U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Brian Baloyi						GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				
	DF	Percyvor "Percy" Molotsane (c)						DF	Ivan Zelic				
	DF	Papi Khomane						DF	Brett Emerton				
	DF	Bernard Gama						DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis	39			
	DF	Collen Tlemo						DF	Michael Pirone				45
	MF	Zane Alexander						DF	Tansel Başer				
	MF	Patrick "Ace" Mbuthu				X*		MF	Kostas Salapasidia				
	MF	Junaid Hartley						MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				62
	FW	Benedict "Benni" McCarthy				X		MF	Michael Garcia	76			
	FW	Delron Buckley						FW	Reshat Mezensof				45*
	FW	Bruce Ramokgadi				X**		FW	Carlos Gonzalez				81
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Steve "Chippa" Lekoelea				X		DF	Simon Colosimo				45
	MF	Vusi Mncwango				X*		MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				62
	FW	Alban Newman				X**		FW	Michael Curcija				45*
								MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				81
								DF	Levent Osman				
								GK	Peter Zois				
								MF	John Maisano				

Team Coach	Jean-Michel "Mich" d'Avray	Team Coach	Raúl Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Australian side, although officially named by SoccerAustralia as Australia U-23, was considered to be the U-21 side.

match report from The Star (Johannesburg), 7/11/1996 by SAPA
The Australian under-23 team beat their South African counterparts 2-0 at Secunda last night in the first of two international friendlis.
South Africa have themselves to blame. They were too prone to errors and let the Aussies off the hook on too many occasions.
The disciplined play of the visitors was the big difference and although South Africa had the better of the first half, they found themselves trailing 1-0 through a goal which came very much against the run of play.
The Socceroos started the match in a defensive mode and at times packed their backyard with up to seven players.
These tactics did not worry the South African front runners much though, as the quartet of Junaid Hartley, Benedict McCarthy, Delron Buckley and Bruce Ramokadi found it rather easy to pierce the Australians' defensive wall.
Hartley was always full of ideas and he created numerous openings for his fellow forwards.
Desperate clearances by Con Blatsis, Ivan Zelic and the timely intervention of goalkeeper Danny Milovesic saved the day for the visitors on a number of occasions in the first half.
But in spite of their dominance, the young Bafana Bafana found themselves a goal down at the break.
A corner kick by midfielder Costas Salapasidis was bundled in by Blatsis in a crowded SA goalmouth in the 39th minute.
South Africa retaliated and stormed into the Socceroos penalty area, but again desperate clearances were the order of the day by Zelic and company.
Although SA coach Mich D'Avray made four substitutions after the break, it was all in vain as the Socceroos went further ahead in the 76th minute when Andrew Vargus slipped a pass to striker Michael Garcia who whipped it past the diving Brian Baloyi.
The goal was a direct result of the quick-wittedness of the Australians who caught the SA defence napping.
SA tried to come back but again poor finishing robbed them of at least getting a goal.

match report from The Star (Johannesburg), 7/11/1996 by Matshelane Mamabold

The Australian under-23 team beat South Africa 2-0 at Secunda last night before a capacity crowd of 9000 in the first of two friendly international matches.

Australia took the lead against the run of play in the 40th minute after the home team had dominated the second half.

They won a corner, which was taken by defender Tansel Baser, and Con Blastis slotted the ball into the net to silence the partisan crowd.

South Africa can be excused for feeling unlucky at being a goal down at the interval because they created many scoring opportunities.

With Junaid Hartley, Benedict McCarthy and German-based Delron Buckley dictating play in the midfield, the SA team launched several dangerous attacks. McCarthy and Hartley both came close, in the sixth and seventh minutes respectively, when their shots were just off target.

Hartley tormented the Australian defence and, in the 32nd minute, dribbled past a cluster of players and crossed the ball to Bruce Ramokadi, only for the Pirates striker to head the ball over the bar.

Earlier, SA captain Percyvor Molotsane ould not believe it when his shot from outside the box skimmed the crossbar following a free kick from Zane Alexander.

South Africa again took the game to the Australians in the second half, but their opponents stood their ground.

Sensing defeat, Mich D'Avray brought on Steve Lekoelea and Alban Newman for Bruce Ramokadi and Benedict McCarthy. Both substitutes go into the Australian penalty area, but the physical Australians did not crumble under the relentless pressure.

Australia got their second goal after Michael Curcija beat the offside trap and advancing goalkeeper Brian Baloyi.

The South Africans tried every trick in the book to salvage the match but, in the end, had only themselves to blame for the defeat after missing so many opportunities.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
9th. November 1996,	FNB Stadium, Johannesburg, South Africa			50000

Republic of South Africa U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Republic of South Africa U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Brian Baloyi						GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				
	DF	Bradley Carnell						DF	Ivan Zelic				
	DF	Collen Tlemo						DF	Brett Emerton				
	DF	Bernard Gama						DF	Simon Colosimo				
	DF	Papi Khomane						DF	Levent Osman				64
	MF	Junaid Hartley						MF	Michael Garcia				
	MF	Zane Alexander						MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				81
	MF	Quinton Fortune						MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				
	FW	Benedict "Benni" McCarthy				48		MF	Kostas Salapasidia				
	FW	Bruce Ramokgadi	55					FW	Michael Curcija	20			
	FW	Delron Buckley						FW	Reshat Mezensof				60
						SUBSTITUTES							
	MF	Vusi Mncwango				48		DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis				64
								DF	Tansel Başer				81
								MF	John Maisano				60

Team Coach	Jean-Michel "Mich" d'Avray	Team Coach	Les Scheinflug
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Thulani Shange		
Assistant Referee 1	no assistant referees used.		
Assistant Referee 2			

This match was the curtain raiser between South Africa and Zaire in the Group 3, World Cup Qualifying match. The result was South Africa..1 v. Zaire..0
The Sunday Times shows Carlos Gonzalez in place of Reshat Mezensof, and Michael Pirone substituting for Levent Osman in the Australian team.

match report from The Sunday Times (Johannesburg), 10/11/1996
The South African Football Association failed to organise a referee to officiate in yesterday's friendly international between the South African under-23s and their Australian counterparts.
The match, which served as the main curtain-raiser to the World Cup qualifying tie between South Africa and Zaire, was delayed for more than an hour as officials frantically sought a whistleman.
Their search ended when they bumped into retired referee Thulani Shange from Durban, who agreed to handle the game - but had to do so without assistants.
Although Shange handled the game competently under trying circumstances, one can sympathise with the junior Socceroos for feeling hard done by when he allowed Junaid Hartley to handle the ball before Quinton Fortune equalised after the Australians had taken an early lead.
The Australians proved technically superior and dished out free lessons to Mich d'Avray's side about the importance of possession football in a thrilling match that ended in a 1-1 draw.
The kids from Down Under never panicked or lost their composure and impressed local fans with their clever moves and excellent organisation.
The skilful South Africans, blessed with the ability to stroke the ball and engage in subtle shoe-shuffling acts, still need to co-ordinate their play by adding a little discipline to their approach.
Sadly, when Fortune, who made a surprise appearance after it was feared he would not be available, blundered in an attempt to back-heel the ball to Hartley, he was dispossessed by Brett Emerton.
Emerton raced almost the length of the field and, spotting Brian Baloyi moving off his line, passed to Michael Curcija who fired from outside the penalty area to put the visitors one up in the 19th minute.
The South Africans, who up to that stage had appeared to be less interested in proceedings, suddenly sprang to life with Hartley taking matters in his own hands and opening up the compact Aussie defence.
In one inspirational moment, Hartley went on what looked like a suicidal move and beat no less than six Australians, but his final shot, after rounding goalkeeper Danny Milosevic, shaved the upright in the 24th minute.
South Africa gradually took control but their shooting was awful. The only other time they threatened the Australians was when Hartley, arguably the busiest player on the field, had his attempt cleared off the line in the 49th minute.
There was an element of luck attached to South Africa's goal when Hartley appeared to handle the ball before Fortune belted it between a cluster of Australian defenders in the 55th minute.
But Milosevic also pulled off a brilliant save from the boot of Germany-based Delron Buckley to deny the South Africans the chance to take the lead.
This was the second meeting between the two countries. The first match ended in a 2-0 victory for the visitors in the first game played at Secunda on Thursday evening.
South Africa under-23:- B.Baloyi, B.Carnell, C.Tlemo, B.Gama, P.Khomane, B.McCarthy (V.Mncwango 48th), J.Hartley, Z.Alexander, B.Ramokadi, D.Buckley, Q.Fortune.
Australia under-23:- D.Milosevic, I.Zelic, L.Osman (M.Pirone 68th), M.Garcia, A.Vargus, B.Emerton, S.Colosimo, K.Salapasidis, M.Curcija, B.Damianos, C.Gonzales.
SCORERS:- South Africa - Fortune. Australia - Curcija.

match report from The Star (Johannesburg), 11/11/1996 by Matshelane Mamabold

It won't be easy but through regular matches against some of the best opposition in the game and thorough work on their finishing, the dream of Sydney 2000 can become a reality for the South African national under-23 team.

This is how Australian team coach Raul Blanco sees SA's chances of making it to the next Olympics.

Speaking after the sides' 1-1 draw at the FNB Stadium on Saturday, Blanco was full of praise for Mich D'Avray's charges.

"They have a very good team who have the flair and skills to go places," he said, describing their style of play as "similar to that of the South Americans."

But Blanco identified a short-coming which the home side will have to work on before the qualifying matches for Sydney begin.

"They definitely need to work on their finishing if they are to stand a chance of going to the Olympics."

According to Blanco, the South Africans will have to start playing countries from other continents to learn the different styles.

He also believes more players who will be under 23 in four years' time have to be introduced now.

D'Avray seems to be aware of this, as most of the players he fielded in the series are 19. But, unlike the Australians, whose entire squad is made up of 20-year-olds, he is still using "old" players at the expense of youngsters. Under-20 internationals Patrick Mbuthu and Steve Lekoelea only played 45 minutes of the entire series.

On Saturday, the hosts created plaenty of opportunities, but failed to make them count.

After a ragged first-half display, SA found their form and scored a dubious goal to save the match.

Officiated by a retired referee who had to do without assistants, the match started 30 minutes late and was played in uneven halves, the first lasting only 30 minutes, the second a full 45.

Asked what went wrong, Barney Kujane of the SA Football Association said the referees' association was to blame.

Efforts to get comment from referee's chief Sylvester Ndaba proved futile.

With the Australians having dominated proceedings in the first half, and leading through Michael Curcija's goal, the home side looked set for another humiliating defeat.

But a pep talk during the interval seemed to bear fruit when Danny Milosevic in the Australian goal failed to hold onto a Quinton Fortune shot, palming it into the path of Junaid Hartley, who clearly handled it before Bruce Ramokadi equalised.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. July 1997,	Bruce Stadium, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Australia U-23..2 v. Republic of South Africa U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Republic of South Africa U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Peter Zoïs						GK	Wayne Roberts				
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						DF	Claude Collet		X		
	DF	Tansel Başer						DF	Teboho Aaron Mokoena				
	DF	Ivan Zelic (c)						DF	Matthew Booth				
	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella						DF	Bradley Carnell				
	MF	Badawi "Buddy" Farah				X		MF	Trevor Mosehathebe				X
	MF	Brett Emerton	33	X				MF	Josiah Lucky Mhlathi				X*
	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos						MF	Junaid Hartley				
	MF	Carlos Gonzales	57			X*		MF	Quinton Fortune				X**
	MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas		X				MF	Anton Greyling				
	FW	Kosta Salapasidis				X**		FW	Glen Salmon				X***
						SUBSTITUTES							
	DF	Simon Colosimo				X		DF	Michael Shata				X
	MF	Yané Talcevski				X*		DF	Tebogo Sehlalo				X*
	FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp				X**		MF	Hendrik Gulwa				X**
								FW	Bradley August				X***
Team Coach		Raúl Blanco					Team Coach		Mich d'Avray				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Ben Williams											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

Yané Talcevski is often shown as Jane Talcevski.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 18, Number 834, 15/7/1997, page 3
The Olyroos set their feet firmly on the path to Sydney 2000 with a solid, workmanlike 2-0 win over South Africa at Bruce Athletics Field on Saturday night.
It will be the first of many such games for the squad which will carry the standard for Australian Soccer at the home Olympics - in fact South African coach Mich D'Avray was moved to lament the paucity of his own team's build-up in comparison.
But with no qualifying competition in which to hone its competitive edge, the Olyroos are going to need every moment of playing time in these friendly internationals.
Australian coach Raul Blanco said he was delighted by the way the squad had adapted from the steamy heat of Malaysia - where the majority were representing the Young Socceroos in the World Youth Championships - to Canberra's single-figure temperatures.
"We were very professional and got down to the job," he said.
Get down to it they did, with the hero of Kostas Salapasidis, racing on to a free kick from Vella Grella after 10 minutes. He probably met the ball too quickly, hurried his shot and put it wide.
The opening goal also came from a free kick, UTS Olympic's Brett Emerton rising high above two South African defenders to head home from Bill Damianos.
Quinton Fortune showed just why he is playing in Europe for Athletico Madrid when he tore holes in the Olyroos left flank just before half time, sending a penetrating cross into the penalty area which Buddy Farrah was happy to hack away for a corner.
In the 57th minute it was virtually all over as Salapasidis found Carlos Gonzales who headed past goalkeeper Wayne Roberts for Australia's second.
There were few chances for either side after that, with the South African's flair continually blunted by a solid Olyroos' defence in which Ivan Zelic, captaining the team in front of his home-town crowd, playing a prominent role.
Blanco said the Australians improved as the match went on "especially when Emerton began to push forward more in the second half ".
He expected a tougher game in Wollongong next week "because the cold weather has really worried the South Africans and they will have had that much longer to acclimatise."
Olyroos: Zois, Farrah (Colosimo), Baser, Zelic, Grella, Sinozic, Emerton, Damianos, Gonzales (Talcevski), Vargas, Salapasidis (Allsopp).
South Africa: Roberts, Moshathebe (Shata), Carnell, Mokoema, Booth, Collett, Mhlath, Greyling, Fortune (Gulwa), Salmon (August), Hartley.
Scorers: OLYROOS; Emerton (33), Gonzalez (57).
Yellow Cards: Olyroos; Emerton, Vargas. South Africa; Collett.
Referee: Ben Williams.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
19th. July 1997, 15.00	Brandon Park, Wollongong, Australia			4058

Australia U-23..2 v. Republic of South Africa U-23..3

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Republic of South Africa U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Peter Zoïs						GK	Wayne Roberts				
	DF	Simon Colosimo						DF	Michael Shata				
	DF	Tansel Başer				80		DF	Teboho Aaron Mokoena				
	DF	Ivan Zelic (c)						DF	Matthew Booth				
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						DF	Bradley Carnell				X
	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella							Mark de Castro				
	MF	Brett Emerton						MF	Chrissandro de Weber	22, 53			
	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos						MF	Anton Greyling				
	MF	Carlos Gonzales				46		MF	Quinton Fortune				
	MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				46*		MF	Junaid Hartley				72
	FW	Kosta Salapasidis	34					FW	Glen Salmon	10			82
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Yané Talcevski				80		DF	Claude Collet				X
	FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	72			46		MF	Hendrik Gulwa				72
	FW	Michael Curcija				46*		DF	Tebogo Sehlalo				82

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Mich d'Avray
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Con Diomis		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. July 1997,	Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales			

Holiday Coast U-20 Invitation Xl..1 v. Australia U-23..7

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								DF	Simon Colosimo	X			
								DF	Tansel Başer	X			
								MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas	X			
								FW	Michael Curcija	X, X			
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis	X, X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. July 1997,	Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales			4500

Holiday Coast Invitation XI..1 v. Australia U-23..7

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Ben Finnigan						GK	Peter Zois				
								DF	Simon Colosimo	X			
	MF	Gary Phillips											
	MF	Troy Halpin											
	DF	Milan Ivanović											
		David Halverson						MF	Brett Emerton				
		Colin "Col" Smith						MF	Carlos Gonzales	X			
								FW	Michael Curcija				
	FW	Clayton Zane	X					FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	X, X, X, X			
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis	X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

This match was also shown as Coffs Harbour v. Olyroos.

match report from the Coffs Harbour Advocate, 29/7/1997, page 16
Australia's 2000 Olympic Games soccer squad, the Olyroos, produced a dazzling display to defeat a Holiday Coast combination 7-1 in front of 4500 spectators at the Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium on Saturday night.
The Olyroos received a rousing reception when they took the field against the local-based team, which included guest players and the legendary Milan Ivanovic, who has played 40 times for the Socceroos and gained respect of international players like Argentina's maestro Diego Maradonna.
The game was even in the early stages with the speed of Brett Emerton, Kostas Salapasidis and Simon Colosimo bringing out the best in Ivanovic, David Halverson and Col Smith.
Gary Phillips combined well with Troy Halpin and a great through ball found Clayton Zane in the clear.
The big Newcastle striker ran 20m before putting the ball past Olyroos goalkeeper Peter Zois.
The goal sparked the Olyroos squad into action.
The superior fitness began to tell and goals from Colosimo and Daniel Allsop opened the floodgates.
The combination of Michael Curcija and Salapasidis was awesome and goalkeeper Ben Finnigan pulled off some heroic saves.
The second half was a continual bombardment by the Olyroos which eventually led to the 7-1 scoreline.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
30th. July 1997, 19.30	Athletic Oval, Toowoomba, Queensland			2000

Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI..0 v. Australia U-23..5

half time, Queensland T.A.P. XI..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Trevor Gilliland				60							
								DF	Simon Colosimo	X			
		David Pilic											
		Greg Di Losa											
		Greg Anderson											
		Alan Gordon						MF	Carlos Gonzales	X			
		Troy Wickstein											
								FW	Michael Curcija	X			
	FW	Glen Kolpak						FW	Kosta Salapasidis	X, X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Glen Kolpak is also shown as Glenn Kolpak.

The Olyroos squad was:-
Goalkeepers - Peter Zoïs (No.1), Bradley "Brad" Swancott (No.22)
Defenders - Simon Colosimo (No.2), Tansel Başer (No.3), Ivan Zelic (No.4), Sebastian Sinozic (No.6), Levent Osman (No.12)
Midfielders:- Vincenzo "Vince" Grella (No.5), Brett Emerton (No.7), Vasilios "Bill" Damianos (No.8), Carlos Gonzalez (No.9), Patricio "Andy" Vargas (No.10), Yané Talcevski (No.14), John Cutillo (No.17), Dean Culina (No.18).
Forwards:- Kosta Salapasidis (No.11), Michael Curcija (No.15), Daniel "Danny" Allsopp (No.16).

match report from The Chronicle, 31/7/1997
A goal-scoring blitz in the final 10 minutes helped the Australian Olympic team to a 5-0 victory against the Queensland Under 20 development squad at Athletic Oval last night.
Leading 2-0 at half-time, it was not until the final 10 minutes, when Costa Salapasidis netted twice and Simon Colosimo scored, that the Olyroos were able to create a big scoreline.
The Olyroos were quick all over the field and provided the Toowoomba crowd, of about 2000, to an entertaining game.
It was obvious the Australian team had spent some time together and they combined extremely well, rarely throwing a pass anywhere except in front of a player running on to the ball.
Queensland was not totally outclassed, as it created a number of scoring opportunities throughout the game.
Toowoomba's Leigh Ramia did not play in the match after a knee injury got the better of him, but goalkeeper Trevor Gilliland proved he was up to the standard, before being replaced 15 minutes into the second half.
Olyroos coach Raul Blanco was happy with his team's performance and believed they had shown the difference between being a full-time professional player and a part-time player.
"The Queensland team gave a good account of themselves, but I think we showed them a lesson on the difference in being a full-time player," Blanco said.
"Our fitness showed in the end, but only because we train a lot more."
Blanco said one or two of the Queensland players had impressed him greatly.
OLYROOS 5 (Costa Salapasidis 2, Carlos Gonzalez, Michael Curcija, Simon Colosimo goals) d. QUEENSLAND UNDER 20 DEVELOPMENT TEAM 0

Sources (including the Mt.Gravatt Hawks web page) have Mt.Gravatt losing a match against the Olyroos 1-2. This game was supposedly played at the end of July. A close search by the State Library of Queensland, found no such game. However, a game was played on Tuesday 29th.July 1997 between Mt.Gravatt and Queensland (Queensland won 2-1) in their final hit out before playing the Olyroos.
In addition the Courier-Mail (31/7/1997, page 34) noted that the Olyroos were having a light training session at Underwood Park this afternoon.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
1st. August 1997,	Perry Park, Brisbane, Queensland			1500

Queensland..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Queensland..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Robert "Robbie" Farrow						GK	Peter Zoïs				
	DF	Steve Jackson						DF	Levent Osman				
	DF	Gary Brattan (c)						DF	Ivan Zelic (c)				
	MF	Nick Seeley						DF	Tansel Başer				
	MF	Damian Harris				60		DF	Sebastian Sinozic				
	MF	Damian Waugh				70		MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				
		Cameron Pearse						MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				
	MF	Bradley "Brad" Ditton						MF	Brett Emerton	70			
		Warren Allen				25		MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				65
	FW	Andrew "Andy" Lees			35			FW	Kosta Salapasidis				
	FW	Glen Kolpak				80		FW	Michael Curcija				55
SUBSTITUTES													
		Roy Huth				60		MF	Carlos Gonzales				65
	MF	Demetri Theochari				70		FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp				55
		Ricki Hill				25							
	FW	Clayton Koch				80							

Team Coach	John Stewart	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Mark Shield		
Assistant Referee 1	Bob Eedy		
Assistant Referee 2	Jason Power		

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
3rd. August 1997, 15.00	Ryan Park, Rockhampton, Queensland			

Central Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, Central Queensland U-20 XI..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Darrell Graham											
2	DF	Darren England (c)											
6	FW	Lee Graham						MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				
								MF	Carlos Gonzales	55			
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis				
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	89			

Team Coach	David Brand	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Central Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program XI was also shown as a Central Queenland Invitational XI and Central Queensland U-20.

The Olyroos squad was:-
Goalkeepers: - Peter Zoïs, Joseph "Joey" Didulica.
Defenders: - Simon Colosimo, Tansel Başer, Sebastian Sinozic.
Midfielders:- Vincenzo "Vince" Grella, Brett Emerton, Vasilios "Bill" Damianos, Carlos Gonzalez, Patricio "Andy" Vargas, Yané Talcevski, Dean Culina, Badawi "Buddy" Farah.
Forwards:- Ivan Zelic, Michael Curcija, Kosta Salapasidis, Daniel "Danny" Allsopp

The Central Queensland U-20 T.A.P. squad was:-
Goalkeeper: - Darrell Graham (No.1)
Defenders:- Darren England (c) (No.2), Peter Brock (No.3), Brad Smith (No.4), Craig Huston (No.15).
Midfielders: - Andrew Donison (No.5), Nathan Fairley (No.7), Matthew Barrett (No.8), Lance Lapthorn (No.14), Wayne Porter (No.15)
Forwards:- Lee Graham (No.6), Scott Morelande (No.9), Jason Wyer (No.10), Danny Cox (No.11), Steve Nugent (No.12), Daniel Spyve (No.13).

match report from The Morning Bulletin, 4/8/1997, page 40
Central Queensland's invitational soccer side put in a superb effort yesterday to hold the Australian Olyroos to only two goals in their match at Frenchville Sports Club.
CQ's defence, led by inspirational captain Darren England and goalkeeper Darrell Graham, held the visitors to 1-0 before a second was added with only a minute left on the clock.
It was the second time a CQ representative side had performed in outstanding fashion with the open side's nil-all draw against the national premier Brisbane Strikers last year.
A packed house turned out for yesterday's match which started with open play by both sides, in contrast to the defensive tactics used in the Strikers match.
As expected much of the play was in the Olyroos half during the first period but CQ was able to use close marking to keep them out.
The Olyroos seemingly struggled to come to terms with some up-and-down bounce on the Frenchville pitch in the early part of the game but thanks to some strong work by Carlos Gonzales, Andy Vargas and Kosta Salapasidis had nine or 10 legitimate shots at goal in the first half.
Two hit the top crossbar, Graham stopped a couple quite spectacularly and others went wide.
The scores were locked 0-0 at the half.
Central Queensland's defence again stood up to the challenges being thrown at it by Australia's Olympic team early in the second half, and it wasn't until about 10 minutes in, that the Olyroos were able to score.
The goal came about quite easily in the end for Gonzales who sat at the left corner of the net and waited for the long cross to sail above the defence before putting it in.
The Olyroos' second goal was netted by reserve Daniel Allsop after some strong work from his team-mates saw him thread an easy ball in.
The large crowd enjoyed some spectacular half-time entertainment which included four skydivers from the Capricorn Skydiving Club who dropped in on the festivities.
The Central Queensland open side plays the Olyroos open side on Wednesday night at Frenchville Sports Club.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
6th. August 1997, 19.00	Ryan Park, Rockhampton, Queensland			

Rockhampton..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Rockhampton..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Richard Buckle				X		GK	Peter Zoïs				
	DF	Darren England											
	DF	Darren Jeffries											
	MF	Craig Green						MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				
	MF	Nathan Fairley											
	MF	Glen Sheppard											
	FW	Dane Smith											
	FW	Jason Wyer											
	FW	Roy Bob											
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Darrell Graham				X		FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	72			

Team Coach	Willie Burns	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Rockhampton squad was:-
Darrell Graham, Richard Buckle, Guy Rigby, Darren England, Chris Clarke, Darren Jeffries, Glen Sheppard, Clayton Rowland, Craig Green, Roy Bob, Dane Smith, Jason Wyer, Wayne Porter, Nathan Fairley, Lee Graham, Craig Porter, Michael Steere, Lance Lapthorn, Scott Moreland, Ben Dyer

match report from The Morning Bulletin, 7/8/1997, page 40
Rockhampton's representative soccer team came within an inch of stealing an upset win over the Australian Olyroos before finally going down 1-0 at Ryan Park last night.
In a free-flowing, entertaining game, the Rockhampton team showed it was more than capable of mixing it with Australia's best players by keeping the Olyroos scoreless for most of the match.
The record books will show that South Melbourne striker Daniel Allsop netted the winning goal after 72 minutes. However, they will not describe the way Rockhampton fully stretched the Olyroos to the point of almost taking the lead midway through the first half.
After some terrific lead-up work from 16-year-old Dane Smith, midfielder Craig Green put a beautiful ball through to forward Jason Wyer, who only needed to beat Olyroos keeper Peter Zois to claim the lead for his team.
However, with Zois prostrate on the ground, Wyer's strike missed by an inch. That single play summed up the night for the Rockhampton team - so close, yet so far.
In the end, it was the experience and class of the young Olyroos that shone through against some spirited resistance from Rockhampton.
The home team had a host of stars, with defenders Darren England and Darren Jeffries inspirational and midfielders Nathan Fairley, Glen Sheppard, Roy Bob and Craig Green more than matching their opponents.
After a first half dominated by the respective midfields of both teams, the second stanza opened up and featured some brilliant attacking play.
Both sides created chances on goal, and Rockhampton goalkeeper Darrell Graham (a second-half replacement for Richard Buckle) and the Olyroos' Zois needed to scramble on a number of occasions to deny their opponents.
The winning goal came after a period of extended pressure by the Olyroos on the Rockhampton goal, and replacement Daniel Allsop showed exceptional skills to guide in his shot despite pressure from Rockhampton defenders. Olyroos coach Raul Blanco said Rockhampton should be proud of the way its team performed.
"It was a very good test for us, Rockhampton took us to the task," he said.
Blanco said the performance showed Rockhampton's elite players were not far away from the top level.
"They're not too far away at all. They rose to the occasion, and if they could keep producing that sort of performance then they would be almost equal (to the top players)," he said.
Rockhampton coach Willie Burns said as well as being the highlight of his coaching career, the game had to be one of the proudest-ever moments for Rockhampton soccer, especially after a Central Queensland team held the Olyroos to 2-0 last Sunday.
"It's got to be up there. Our game plan was to shut them down out wide, and Rob Bob did that very well in the first half, (The Olyroos) got a bit frustrated, and in the second half we just wanted to keep it going and take it to another level," he said.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
8th. August 1997, 20.00	Murray Soccer Complex, Townsville, Queensland			800

North Queensland Razorbacks..1 v. Australia U-23..7

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								MF	Brett Emerton	X			
								MF	Yané Talcevski	X			
		Victor Murphy	X					FW	Michael Curcija	X			
								FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	X, X, X, X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Townsville Bulletin, 9/8/1997, page 52

The Olyroos last night displayed the skills they hope will develop them into a force at the Sydney Olympic Games, defeating the North Queensland Razorbacks 7-1 at Murray complex.

Despite being held scoreless in a 30-minute period after half-time when Victor Murphy converted the homw team's lone goal, the Olyroos oozed class to record their seventh consecutive win on a tour along Australia's east coast.

Striker Daniel Allsop showed he has the potential to make an impact on the world stage, scoring twice in each half to take his tally to 10 goals on tour.

The star-studded Olyroos, which contains players eligible for the under-23 tournament in Sydney 2000 and includes 13 members from the recent Youth World Cup, dazzled the crowd of about 800 with a slick team display that netted an array of stunning goals.

Olyroos coach Raul Blanco was pleased with his team's performance and said Australia's quest to win its first Olympic medal in soccer was well on track.

"We scored two or three early goals and I think that put them off a little bit but overall it was a good exercise and I am sure the people really enjoyed it," he said.

"It was a good team effort, they kept it serious and kept moving the ball which is a good sign. They just kept going regardless of the result."

Olyroos 7 (Allsop 4, Emerton, Curcija, Talcevski) d. NQ Razorbacks 1 (Murphy).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
10th. August 1997, 17.00	International Park, Ayr, Queensland			

North Queensland U-20 Talented Athletes Program Xl..3 v. Australia U-23..7

half time, North Queensland U-20 T.A.P. Xl..1 v. Australia U-23..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Bradley "Brad" Swancott				
								DF	Simon Colosimo	X			
								MF	Dean Culina				
		Brendon Laakso											
		Matt Allen	X										
		Gary McGrath	X(pk)					FW	Daniel "Danny" Allsopp	X			
		Carl Haddow	1					FW	Michael Curcija	X, X, X			
								FW	Ivan Zelic				
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis	X, X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach	Hugh Montgomery	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Townsville Bulletin, 11/8/1997, page 17

The North Queensland Young Razorbacks went down 7-3 but not before upsetting the multi-million-dollar Olyroos yesterday in Ayr by leading Australia's Olympic Games soccer squad 1-0 after just 25 seconds.

To the delight of a large crowd, Young Razorbacks forward Carl Haddow found the back of the net with a 30m left-foot drive only moments after the opening whistle.

Olyroos star Ivan Zelic was being a little too fancy early in the game and was caught in possession by NQ's Brendon Laakso.

NQ's Gary McGrath fired a shot at the net but Olyroos goalkeeper Brad Swancott saved it before being beaten by Haddow's shot.

The Olyroos failed to equalise until the 25th minute as the Young Razorbacks, coached by Ayr's Hugh Montgomery, played inspired football.

"The early goal was the best thing that could have happened to the game," North Queensland Soccer Federation's Tim White said.

"It gave the Razorbacks plenty of purpose, got the crowd behind them and rattled the cage of the Olyroos. They (Olyroos) were off stride for the first 25 minutes because of some excellent team work by the Razorbacks."

However, the class of the Olyroos was always going to be tough for the Young Razorbacks to counter and after Simon Colosimo equalled, the visitors put two more goals away before half-time through Michael Curcija and Daniel Allsopp.

After 15 minutes of the second half the Olyroos had built a 5-1 lead before a McGrath penalty goal made it 5-2. Olyroos Kostas Salapasidis two second half goals in a polished display although the victor's finest was central defender Dean Culina.

OLYROOS 7 (Michael Curcija 3, Kostas Salapasidis 2, Simon Colosimo, Daniel Allsopp goals) d. NORTH QUEENSLAND YOUNG RAZORBACKS 3 (Carl Haddow, Gary McGrath, Matt Allen goals).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. August 1997, 20.00	Borzi Park, Mareeba, Queensland			1000

Far North Queensland Taipans..0 v. Australia U-23..4

half time, Far North Queensland Taipans..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach	Milah Jankovic	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Olyroos squad was:-
Goalkeepers: - Peter Zoïs, Joseph "Joey" Didulica, Bradley "Brad" Swancott
Defenders: - Simon Colosimo, Tansel Başer, Sebastian Sinozic, Levent Osman.
Midfielders:- Vincenzo "Vince" Grella, Brett Emerton, Vasilios "Bill" Damianos, Carlos Gonzalez, Patricio "Andy" Vargas, Yané Talcevski, Dean Culina, Badawi "Buddy" Farah, John Cutillo.
Forwards:- Ivan Zelic, Michael Curcija, Kosta Salapasidis, Daniel "Danny" Allsopp

The Far North Queensland Taipans squad was:-
Angelo Serafin, Robbie Wales, Mick Cernika, Steven Andrejevic, Tony Cacciopoli, Jamie Hargest, Kevin Frisch, Jason Jia, Pasco Rogato, Dean Hargest, Anthony La Rosa, Jimmy Eszes, Angelo Tatti, Brett Howard, Terry McDonough, Davin Sakach.

match report from Cairns Post, 16/8/1997, page 126
The touring Australian Olympic soccer squad met with stubborn resistance from the Far North Queensland Taipans before a crowd of about 1000 at Mareeba last night.
The Olyroos were held to a 1-0 lead at halftime before overpowering the locals 4-0 in the first of two exhibition matches in the Far North. Tomorrow the Olyroos will show their skills at Leichhardt's White Rock ground when they take on the Taipans junior squad.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. August 1997, 15.00	Leichhardt FC Ground, White Rock, Cairns, Queensland			

Far North Queensland U-20 Taipans..1 v. Australia U-23..16

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								DF	Simon Colosimo	X, X			
		Wade Collins											
		Damon McLeod											
								MF	Brett Emerton	X			
								MF	Billy Damainos	X			
								MF	Yané Talcevski	X, X			
								MF	John Cutillo	X			
		Gavin Honey	X					FW	Daniel Allsopp	X, X, X, X			
								FW	Michael Curcija	X, X, X			
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis	X, X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Cairns Post, 18/8/1997, page 26

The Australian Olyroos showed the Far North yesterday why they are so highly rated in world soccer, putting on a dazzling display to thump the Tropical Far North Queensland under 20 Taipans 16-1 at Leichhardt oval.

South Melbourne striker Daniel Allsop top scored for the Olyroos with four goals while Michael Curcija was close behind on three. Kosta Salapasidis, Simon Colosimo and Jane Talcevski bagged two while Bill Damianos, Brett Emerton and John Cutillo scored one each.

Cutillo's goal was the best out of the bunch - a rasping 25m drive into the top right corner.

The Youth Taipans only goal was scored by Edge Hill's Gavin Honey.

It was brilliant to see the stunning array of talents displayed by the Australians and the Taipans players no doubt learnt a great deal from the experience.

The Olyroos fly to Canberra today and the Australian Institute of Sport where they will undergo physiological testing.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. August 1997, 19.00	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Young A.C.T. Rockets..1 v. Australia U-23..5

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Steve Wilkinson				66		GK	Brad Swancott				
		Joel Curtis						DF	Tansel Başer	60	58		
		Adrian Parragalli						DF	Levent Osman				
		Tim Francis						MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				
		Manuel Sermano						MF	Brett Emerton				
		Oscar Zamora				62		MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				
		Jose "Chewy" Exposito				52		MF	Dean Culina				
		Gabriel "Gabby" Exposito				76		MF	Yané Talcevski				60
		Pino Seminara						FW	Ivan Zelic				
		John Glass						FW	Michael Curcija	16, 25			
		Matthew Kemp						FW	Daniel Allsopp	33			
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Ian Jeffreys				66		MF	John Cutillo	70			60
		S.Lyons				62							
		Geoff Howarth				52							
		David Polywada				76							

Team Coach	Jimmy Bland	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Ben Williams		
Assistant Referee 1	G.Martin		
Assistant Referee 2	G.Dunster		

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. January 1998,	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Australian Institute of Sport..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								DF	Željko Suša	X, X			
								MF	Wayne "Knipey" Knipe	X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
28th. January 1998,	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Canberra Cosmos..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								DF	Ivan Zelic				X
								DF	Željko Suša				
	DF	Lindsay Wilson											
	FW	Michael Musitano	88										
								FW	Peter Buljan				
								FW	Michael Curcija				
								FW	Clayton Zane				
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
29th. January 1998,	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

A.C.T. Rockets..2 v. Australia U-23..4

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
			(og)										
								MF	Wayne "Knipey" Knipe	X, X			
		Joe Campagna	X, X										
								FW	Travis Dodd	X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
25th. February 1998,	Albury, New South Wales			

Carlton Youth Team..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								DF	Robert Trajkovski				
								MF	Marcus Stergiopoulos				
								MF	Peter Ritchie				
								FW	Clayton Zane				
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
21st. March 1998, 19.30	Parramatta Stadium, Sydney, New South Wales			20069

Australia U-23..2 v. Brazil U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Brazil U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic					1	GK	Fábio Deivson Lopes Maciel "Fábio"				
2	DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis					2	DF	Filipe Alvim Maluf				
3	DF	Simon Colosimo					3	DF	Fernando Santos				
4	DF	Raphael Bove					4	DF	Rodrigo Centico Moriera "Rodrigo"				
7	DF	Brett Emerton (c)	7				5	MF	Rodrigo Lacerda Ramos "Ferrugem" (c)				
15	DF	Jacob Burns					6	MF	Gustavo Nery de Sá da Silva				
5	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella					8	MF	Eriberto Conceição da Silva "Eriberto"	31			84
6	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				56	10	MF	João Fernando Nelo				
8	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Rizzo		X		86	11	MF	Francelino Matuzalém da Silva				
19	FW	Clayton Zane				78	9	FW	Marco Antônio Freitas Filho				46
20	FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				57	14	FW	Carlos Alberto Rodrigues Gavião				65
SUBSTITUTES													
16	MF	Jason Culina				56	15	MF	Marcelo de Paula Rocha				84
12	DF	Dragi Nastevski				86	17	FW	Luis Eduardo Schmidt "Edu"				46
17	FW	Christian Care				78	16	MF	Thiago Silva Dos Santos				65
23	FW	Michael Curcija	69			57							
Team Coach		Raul Blanco					Team Coach		Antônio José Fernandes Barroso "Toninho Barroso"				
Team Manager		Emerey Holmik					Team Manager		Marco Antonio Teixeira				
Referee		Simon Micallef											
Assistant Referee 1		John Bowdler											
Assistant Referee 2		Alex Spiroski											

Eriberto Conceição da Silva, whose date of birth was 21/1/1979, was holding a fake passport. His true name was Luciano Siqueira de Oliveira (d.o.b. 31/12/1975).

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 870, 24/3/1998, page 3 by John Economos.

An Australian Olympic team, extremely well balanced, totally disciplined, mobile, determined and tactically well-prepared, proved far too much to handle, defeating Brazil 2-1 last Saturday night in front of a healthy and colourful crowd of 20,067 at Sydney's Parramatta Stadium.

Goals by newly-elected skipper Brett Emerton very early in the first session plus another in the 69th minute by second-half substitute striker Michael Curcija destroyed a somewhat shocked Brazil, who already have been tagged as favourites for a gold medal in Sydney's 2000 Olympics.

So devastating, so unyielding was Australia's performance against the world's most illustrious Soccer nation, that the Brazilians were thrown into total frustration and almost disarray, questioning just what they had to do to break down that 'Vegemite-Vigour' so well recognised internationally in sporting arenas around the world.

Here one must salute the industrious and meticulous input by Australia's coach Raul Blanco, who magnificently moulded this young team, despite the mid-week frustrations inflicted upon him by European clubs blocking the return of some of his star players.

Blanco's 'cocktail' of styles, qualities and above all his tactical preparation, not to mention his excellent timely rotation in making his substitutions to sustain pressure on the South Americans, was of outstanding quality.

Blamnco kicked off with a 5-3-2 formation, but from the moment Australia hit the front again in the second-half, he swiftly switched to an aggressive 4-5-1 to choke Brazil in the middle of the pitch and cement Australia's lead to the very end.

Australia had numerous star performers. In fact about the only 'non-performer' - if one is permitted to call him that - was goalkeeper Danny Milosevic who thankfully had very little to do but make one valuable save.

Skipper and right wingback Brett Emerton was powerful in his raids and defensive work, and he cracked Brazil's defence with a world class header very early in the match whilst giant central marker Simon Colosimo was 'BHP' steel tough at the back, forging himself as a definite future and senior international for the Green and Gold.

Australia's highly industrious starting midfield trio of Billy Damianos, Vince Grella and Nick Rizzo were mobile, aggressive and savagely pressured Brazil off the ball. Grella, in fact, was dynamite and Rizzo's visionary passing stretched Brazil's lines.

Australia's skilled strike-combination of giant Clayton Zane alongside diminutive 16-year-old Nick Carle was explosive and tenacious, repeatedly piercing Brazil's back men.

The lanky Zane, in fact, was most unlucky not to have scored as well and to have earnt Australia a penalty in the dying seconds of the first session when he was first fouled inches outside Brazil's box, He was then grabbed and held back inside the box by the same offending defender, sweeper Fernando Santos.

Santos was the last man and was most fortunate not to have seen Simon Micallef's red card.

In the seventh minute the stadium exploded with delirium as Australia hit the front following a well-struck corner from the left by midfielder Damianos.

With ruthlessly timed efficiency, Emerton on the back stick climbed a half body length above the Brazilian defence, hung in the air, then recoiled his neck muscles to unleash a crashing header that ripped into the target.

It was nothing short of a world class aerial goal.
On the half hour mark a Rizzo cross saw Damianos clobber a downward drive that lifted towards the target where Brazil's goalie Fabio barely was able to tip it around the corner.
Sixty seconds later Brazil 'balanced the books' through their galloping midfielder Eriberto. Racing infield he let fly a lethal left footed low drive that flashed into the corner of the target.
The pace of the match was so furious one could not help wondering that the side that wilted first would lose this spectacular war.
This is where Australia's sustained power shocked the Brazilians, the crowd plus all television viewers.
Blanco's eagle-eye closely monitored the energy levels of his soldiers and with precision timing made his four substitutions to bring on fresh legs, thus sustaining immense, unbearable pressure on the by-now jading Brazil.
The block-busting Emerton crashed his way through two Brazilian defenders in the 52nd minute but his final shot cannoned off the base of the right post.
In the 68th minute Brazil's sweeper Santos was most fortunate to again escape a red card when he scythed down a dazzling Rizzo 10 metres outside the box.
From the ensuing well taken free-kick by Grella, substitute Curcija climbed high in front and carefully side-foot volleyed into the target, sending Australia hurtling towards victory and the whole Stadium electrified into hysterical jubilation.
This was a match that no lover of international Soccer should have missed.
Australia's debutante skipper, Brett Emerton, facing his first ever press conference, quietly remarked: "To be made captain, score and win against Brazil was an incredible honour as well as a bonus. Being Brazil I always expected to be surprised by something from them, but we played very well and it was personally a great lift."
Meanwhile Brazil's respectful coach, Toninho Barroso, soundly acknowledged Australia's victory, stating: "It was a very good game and we had no idea how well Australia would play which has many quality players to make a very good national team for the next Olympics. We lost two players through injury and having arrived only three days before this match it affected us, but I hope for our next game (tonight Tuesday) Brazil will be stronger and better. We conceded a very early goal which we shouldn't have through an individual mistake which again shouldn't have happened," concluded Brazil's master coach.
An extremely cool, very humble but totally cautious Australian coach, Raul Blanco, reflected: "Obviously I'm very happy with the result, but there is still a big job ahead that has to be done for us to get even better. We were solid and aggressive collectively and only Australian Soccer can benefit from this and the crowd was just fantastic. There was a great response to Australia's Olympic team which had many good performers tonight with Simon Colosimo one of the pick players. For Tuesday's game I will have to wait and see how everyone will recover as I must give a chance to others in my squad to see just what they can offer as well."
AUSTRALIA: Milosevic; Emerton, Blatsis, Bove, Colosimo, Burns; Damianos (J.Culina 57), Grella, Rizzo (Nastevski 86); Zane (Care 78), N.Carle (Curcija 57).
BRAZIL: Fabio; Rodrigo, Santos, Gustavo; Alvim, Matuzalem, Fernando, Ramos, Eriberto (Rocha 84); Antonio (Edu 46), Gaviao (Thiago 65).
SCORERS: AUSTRALIA; Emerton 7, Curcija 69. BRAZIL; Eriberto 31.
REFEREE: S.Micallef.
CROWD: 20,067.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
24th. March 1998, 19.30	Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide, South Australia			7537

Australia U-23..3 v. Brazil U-23..2

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. Brazil U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic					1	GK	Fábio Deivson Lopes Maciel "Fábio"				
2	DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis		X			2	DF	Filipe Alvim Maluf				
3	DF	Simon Colosimo		X			3	DF	Fernando Santos				
4	DF	Raphael Bove				56	4	DF	Rodrigo Centico Moriera "Rodrigo"		X		
7	DF	Brett Emerton (c)					5	MF	Rodrigo Lacerda Ramos "Ferrugem" (c)				
15	DF	Jacob Burns				53	6	MF	Gustavo Nery de Sá da Silva				
5	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella					8	MF	Eriberto Conceição da Silva "Eriberto"		5	6	
6	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				71	11	MF	Francelino Matuzalém da Silva		X		
8	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Rizzo	81(pk)				7	FW	Luiz Cláudio Soares de Barros				10
9	FW	Archibald "Archie" Thompson				46	9	FW	Marco Antônio Freitas Filho	12, 83			
19	FW	Clayton Zane	42			84	10	FW	João Fernando Nelo		X		58
SUBSTITUTES													
16	MF	Jason Culina				56	15	MF	Marcelo de Paula Rocha				10
17	FW	Christian Care				71	17	FW	Luis Eduardo Schmidt "Edu"				58
18	DF	Tansel Başer				53							
20	FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				84							
23	FW	Michael Curcija	59			46							

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Antônio José Fernandes Barroso "Toninho Barroso"
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Eugene Brazzale		
Assistant Referee 1	Keith Bruce-Gordon		
Assistant Referee 2	Craig Zetter		

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 871, 31/3/1998, page 4 by Val Migliaccio.

Australia wrapped-up the three match 'Olyroo Challenge' in game two at Hindmarsh Stadium with another convincing victory over Brazil, 3-2 last Tuesday night.

Clayton Zane, Michael Curcija and Nick Rizzo (penalty) scored the goals for the Olyroos with Brazil's Marco Antonio bagging a brace.

The Brazilians were down to ten men after just six minutes when an act of poor discipline by playmaker Eriberto saw referee Eugene Brazzale have no choice but to send him off after receiving his second yellow card in the space of a minute.

The Olyroos were ably lead by Liverpool's Nick Rizzo who repeatedly carved the Brazilians open with his beautiful left foot and his speed.

Aussie captain Brett Emerton said at the post-match press conference: "Even though we were one goal down early we were relaxed enough and used the extra man to our advantage."

Toninho Barroso, the coach of Brazil, was less than complimentary, saying: "Even though we had a man sent-off we got on with the game. I was not happy with the performance of the referee tonight, especially the penalty decision which went against us."

Once again the match proved to be fiery with both sides tackling extremely hard and showing no mercy. The Olyroos more than matched Brazil for physical and technical ability and in the end thoroughly deserved the victory.

The match started where it left off in Sydney with physical challenges flying in thick and fast with the Brazilians trying to unsettle the Australians early.

After Eriberto's early send-off, Brazil substituted Luiz Claudio for Rocha in the tenth minute, thus altering their initial game plan.

A minute later they took the lead when a free-kick inside the area ricocheted across the face of the goal and Marco Antonio smashed the ball home from an acute angle.

The Olyroos then had a period of dominance with Emerton squandering a half chance in the 13th minute and Archie Thompson denied by the brilliant keeping of Fabio in the 31st minute.

Big Clayton Zane always looked dangerous and proved to be too hot to handle for the Brazilians. In the 34th minute a perfect Rizzo free-kick to Zane saw the Newcastle striker's effort fly over the top of the crossbar from five metres.

And Brazil hit the crossbar in the 39th minute when Ferrugem's cross was deflected.

Two minutes later the Olyroos equalised when Rizzo's free-kick outside the box rebounded to Zane who popped the ball into the back of the net.

Half-time saw the Green and Gold make a change with coach Raul Blanco introducing Michael Curcija for Thompson.

Curcija's impact was felt in the 59th minute when he scored the second for the Olyroos and his second for the tournament. This time Rizzo's corner was met by Zane at the far post, who in turn relayed the ball back to Curcija who did the rest.

Man-of-the-Match Rizzo scored the Olyroos' third from the penalty spot in the 80th minute.

Emerton sent Rizzo away with a perfect 50 metre ball, the latter controlled the ball nicely in the box and was upended.

Rizzo capped off a memorable night by wrong footing Fabio from the spot.

Brazil still wouldn't lie down and in the 82nd minute Gustavo's thunderbolt from 20 metres crashed against the crossbar and into safety.

Marco Antonio scored Brazil's second in the 84th minute when he rounded overseas-based Aussie keeper Danny Milosevic, and he calmly slotted the ball home after good lead up work by Ferrugem from the free-kick.
Brazil then pressed for an equaliser but Australia held firm in a gallant display during the final moments of the match.
AUSTRALIA: Milosevic, Blatsis, Colosimo, Bove (Culina 55), Gralla, Damianos (Care 70), Emerton, Rizzo, Thompson (Curcija 46), Burns (Baser 53), Zane (Carle 79).
BRAZIL: Fabio, Filipe Alvim, Fernando Santos, Rodrigo, Ferrugem, Gustavo, Luiz Claudio (Rocha 10), Eriberto, Marco Antonio, Fernando (Edu 58), Matuzalem.
SCORERS: Australia: Zane 41, Curcija 59, Rizzo 80p. Brazil: Antonio 11, 84.
YELLOW CARDS: Australia: Colosimo, Blatsis. Brazil: Eriberto, Fernando, Rodrigo, Matuzalem.
RED CARD: Brazil: Eriberto
CROWD: 7,537.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
28th. March 1998, 19.00	WACA Ground, Perth, Western Australia			13357

Australia U-23..2 v. Brazil U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. Brazil U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic					1	GK	Fábio Deivson Lopes Maciel "Fábio"				
2	DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis					3	DF	Fernando Santos				
4	DF	Raphael Bove					4	DF	Rodrigo Centico Moriera "Rodrigo"				30
7	DF	Brett Emerton (c)					13	DF	Alessandro Morinunes		X		
14	DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt					5	MF	Rodrigo Lacerda Ramos "Ferrugem" (c)		X		
18	DF	Tansel Başer		X			6	MF	Gustavo Nery de Sá da Silva				
5	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella					11	MF	Francelino Matuzalém da Silva				
8	MF	Nicholas "Nick" Rizzo				75	15	MF	Marcelo de Paula Rocha				
16	MF	Jason Culina				88	7	FW	Luiz Cláudio Soares de Barros		X		46
19	FW	Clayton Zane	15, 24			75*	9	FW	Marco Antônio Freitas Filho				
23	FW	Michael Curcija					17	FW	Luis Eduardo Schmidt "Edu"	60	X		
SUBSTITUTES													
6	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				75, 90+5	14	FW	Carlos Alberto Rodrigues Gavião				30
9	FW	Archibald "Archie" Thompson				75*	18	MF	Rodrigo Pontes da Silva		X		46
15	DF	Jacob Burns				88							
17	FW	Christian Care				90+5							
Team Coach		Raul Blanco					Team Coach		Antônio José Fernandes Barroso "Toninho Barroso"				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Brett Hugo											
Assistant Referee 1		Patrick McCaffery											
Assistant Referee 2		Steve Muldoon											

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 871, 31/3/1998, page 4 by Richard Kreider

The painful memories of the Socceroos' 6-0 drubbing by Brazil in the recent Confederation Cup Final can perhaps be laid to rest following last week's senstional results by the Olyroos over the Brazilian Olympic side.

After wins in Sydney and Adelaide, the Olyroos completed a hat-trick of victories over the South Americans in Perth with a 2-1 result at the WACA Ground last Saturday night, where Newcastle Breakers star Clayton Zane converted a quality first-half brace.

The triple triumph is without doubt the ideal fillip for coach Raul Blanco as he prepares for Sydney 2000. The slick passing game by the Olyroos, which is usually the trademark of the Brazilians, was the difference between the two sides.

The Australians opened the scoring in the 15th minute after a typical probing run by skipper Brett Emerton, who then set-up Zane to drill the ball past the highly-rated Fabio.

Zane brought another roar of delight from the crowd of 13,357 nine minutes later with another quality strike that brought up his double.

The Brazilians were not without their scoring chances, especially through Matuzalem after just two minutes of play, and substitute Gaviao and Edu in the closing stages of the opening half, and a Gustavo free-kick brought the best out of Olyroo keeper Danny Milosevic moments after the restart.

The Brazilians eventually pulled a goal back in the 61st minute with some of the style you normally expect from the South Americans, when Edu tucked away Alessandro's centre.

That was the one and only time they looked like finding the net, due to a superb performance by Milosevic, Con Blatisis, Stephen Laybutt (who replaced the suspended Simon Colosimo), and Raphael Bove in defence.

The Man-of-the-Match was Liverpool whizz-kid Nick Rizzo who played well beyond his young years in midfield.

Rizzo, however, is in no hurry to sign a new contract for the Merseyside giants. "I'll wait until the end of the season to decaide my future," said the rising star of Aussie Soccer.

AUSTRALIA: Milosevic, Blatsis, Laybutt, Bove, Baser, Grella, Culina (Carle 88), Emerton, Rizzo (Damianos 74) (Care 96), Curcija, Zane (Thompson).

BRAZIL: Fabio, Alessandro, Santos, Rodrigo (Gaviao 29), Ferrugem, Gustavo, Claudio (Pontes 45), Rocha, Antonio, Edu, Matuzalem.

SCORERS: Australia; Zane 15, 24. Brazil; Edu 61.

YELLOW CARDS: Australia; Baser. Brazil; Alessandro, Gustavo, Ferrugem, Claudio, Edu, Pontes.

CROWD: 13,357.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
26th. May 1998,	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

Australian Institute of Sport..1 v. Australia U-23..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
13th. June 1998,	Malanda Dairy Farmers Stadium, Townsville, Queensland			

Australia U-23..1 v. New Zealand U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..1 v. New Zealand U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica						GK	Chris Marsh				
	DF	Dragi Nastevski						DF	Noah Hickey				
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						DF	Gareth Rowe (c)				
	DF	Tansel Başer						DF	Greg Uhlmann				
	DF	Mark Robertson						DF	Ryan Nelsen				
	DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt						MF	Ian Robinson				
	DF	Željko Suša	3					MF	Jeremy Brown				
	MF	Brett Emerton						MF	Raffaele "Raf" de Gregorio				
	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos						MF	Dean Dodds				
	FW	Archibald "Archie" Thompson						FW	Paul Urlovic				
	FW	Michael Curcija						FW	Michael Sands				
						SUBSTITUTES							
	FW	Glen Kolpak				X		GK	Roger Noll				
	DF	Ivan Zelic						MF	Jeffrey "Jeff" Campbell				
	DF	Andrew "Andy" McDermott						FW	Graham Pearce				
	MF	Leo Carle						FW	Matthew "Matt" Urlovic				
	MF	Noel Spencer											
	MF	Jacob Burns											
	GK	Peter Zoïs											

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Joe McGrath
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Brett Hugo		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from Townsville Bulletin, 15/6/1998, page 37

Olyroos coach Raul Blanco and his New Zealand counterpart, Joe McGrath, found plenty to be positive about after the Olyroos' narrow 1-0 win in the Trans-Tasman Soccer Challenge in Townsville on Saturday.

A goal after just three minutes to midfielder Zelko Susa was enough to give the Olyroos victory and has set the stage for the remaining two matches in the series.

The Olyroos dominated the early part of the first half and Susa's goal gave every indication that the Kiwis could be on the wrong end of a cricket score.

To their credit though, New Zealand regrouped and were able to create a number of chances of their own as the first half wore on.

Kiwi striker Paul Uriovic was a constant danger and he came close to equalising in the 16th minute when a glancing header flew just wide of the post.

The Olyroos also created chances and striker Michael Curcija nearly had them 2-0 in front after he made a run into the box to meet a good cross from Olyroos skipper Brett Emerton in the 25th minute.

Blanco brought on substitute Glen Kolpak in the second half and he proved a constant headache for the Kiwis. With just six minutes gone he had the ball in the back of the net, only for referee Brett Hugo to disallow the goal for offside.

Unfortunately, the second half largely failed to live up to the crowd's expectations and Hugo had a difficult time as frustration on the part of both teams resulted in some wayward tackles. Blanco was more pleased with his team's second half effort after admitting his players may have become complacent after their early goal.

"It was our first game in eight weeks so I have to be happy with their effort," Blanco said. "I certainly believe we will get better. Overall, it was a reasonable performance by the team."

While reluctant to single out individuals, Blanco did reserve a word of praise for Kolpak, who he said had done everything asked of him in his first international.

McGrath was full of praise for his players and said they had bounced back well after the shock of conceding the early goal.

"It certainly did knock us out of our stride but I'm very pleased that it didn't destroy us," McGrath said.

"I think we have a great deal to look forward to in the remaining two matches."

Olyroos 1 (Zeljko Susa) d. New Zealand 0

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. June 1998, 19.00	Oakes Oval, Lismore, New South Wales			2800

Australia U-23..2 v. New Zealand U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. New Zealand U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Peter Zois						GK	Chris Marsh				
	DF	Dragi Nastevski						DF	Gareth Rowe (c)				
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						DF	Greg Uhlmann				
	DF	Ivan Zelic						DF	Ryan Nelsen				
	DF	Andrew "Andy" McDermott						DF	Noah Hickey				
	MF	Jacob Burns						MF	Ian Robinson				
	MF	Noel Spencer						MF	Dean Dodds				
	MF	Brett Emerton (c)	70					MF	Jeremy Brown				
	MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos						MF	Raffaele "Raf" de Gregorio				
	FW	Archibald "Archie" Thompson						FW	Graham Pearce				
	FW	Michael Curcija	52					FW	Matthew "Matt" Urlovic				
SUBSTITUTES													
Team Coach		Raul Blanco					Team Coach		Joe McGrath				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee													
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 883, 23/6/1998, page 5
This is just no stopping our fabulous Olyroos. After the demolition job they did on Brazil in March, they maintained their winning ways by beating Trans-Tasman rivals New Zealand 3-0 in the recently finished NSW/QLD tour.
In Townsville last week they started the tour with a 1-0 *win* courtesy of a Zeljko Susa goal.
Then on Wednesday they went to Soccer-mad Lismore, where over 4,000 fans saw them play at Oaks Oval.
The fans were not disappointed, with another barnstorming display, this time winning two nil.
Firstly South Melbourne's Michael Curija netted seven minutes into the second half, then Superstar Brett Emerton crashed home the side's second in the 70th minute.
The starting line-up for this game was: Zois, Nastevski, Sinozic, Zelic, McDermott, Burns, Spencer, Emerton, Damianos, Thompson, Curcija.

match report from The Northern Star, 18/6/1998, page 40
The Australian Olyroos clinched the Trans-Tasman Soccer Challenge last night with an impressive 2-0 win over the New Zealand Olympic squad at Oakes Oval, Lismore.
Almost 4000 people watched the game, the first on the North Coast involving a national men's team.
After a 1-0 win in the opening game at Townsville, the Olyroos showed too much class for the Kiwis to go into the third and final game at Coffs Harbour on Saturday night with the trophy safely tucked away.
Coach Raul Blanco made five changes and the result was a more confident Olyroos team.
From the outset it was clear Australia was looking to play a possession-based game, holding the ball and probing for gaps, while the New Zealanders concentrated on counter-attacking style, looking to break quickly.
South Melbourne striker Michael Curcija just missed giving Australia an early lead in the fifth minute when a shot shaved the top of the cross-bar.
The Kiwis absorbed the early pressure before settling to create chances of their own, with striker Paul Urlovic their most dangerous player.
Australia began to control play late in the first half with Curcija and flanker Archie Thompson looking dangerous.
Curcija scored seven minutes into the second half with a header from an Andrew McDermott cross. The goal boosted the Aussies, who dominated the rest of the game.
Captain Brett Emerton, who had been quiet in the first half, came back to show his class after the break. He drifted in from the far post to pounce on a cross that eluded the New Zealand defenders to score the Olyroos' second goal 20 minutes from time.
The Kiwis continued to fight hard, but were outclassed by a disciplined Australian outfit that pleased coach Blanco.
"We were a little tentative in the first half, but played a lot better after the break and as far as a team performance goes, it was quite good," Blanco said.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. June 1998, 19.30	International Sports Stadium, Coffs Harbour, New South Wales			4400

Australia U-23..4 v. New Zealand U-23..0

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. New Zealand U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
								DF	Noah Hickey				
	DF	Tansel Başer											
	MF	Leo Carle	24										
								MF	Dean Dodds				
	MF	Brett Emerton	19										
	FW	Glen Kolpak	80										
	FW	Clayton Zane	75										
						SUBSTITUTES							

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Joe McGrath
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 883, 23/6/1998, page 5

The final game of the tour was at Coffs Harbour's International Sport stadium, where a large and excited crowd saw the Australians win 4-0, in what was a very impressive performance by Raul Blanco's side.

New player Glen Kolpak, showed he has what it takes with the final goal of the game in Coffs. Kolpak's Queensland club, Rochedale Rovers, stated to ABSW that they "won't stand in the way of Kolpak" whom they describe as a "complete footballer".

Kolpak is a free agent should Ericsson Cup sides be interested.

As for Glenn, he says that he has "learnt heaps being coached by Raul Blanco", and described the New Zealanders as "very physical".

Other scorers in Coffs Harbour were the Sydney Olympic pair of Brett Emerton and Leo Carle, while Northern Spirit's Clayton Zane was the other goalscorer.

Olyroo coach Raul Blanco said the tour was hard work, and the fact that it was in the off-season for most of the players made it just that little bit harder.

"The side got better as the week went on. It was a very important tour for us in our overall preparations for the Olympics. When the U/20s are back I will look at picking the squad for the tour to South America," ended Blanco.

The Olyroos are in camp in Sydney and are off to Argentina on July 6.

match report from The Coffs Harbour Advocate, 23/6/1998, page 18

Olyroos coach Raul Blanco declared his side would continue to be a threat to every soccer nation in the world after the Australians cruised to a 4-0 win over New Zealand at the Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium on Saturday night.

The victory completed a hat-trick of wins over the Kiwis for the Olyroos in the inaugural Trans-Tasman Soccer Challenge. It follows a 3-0 series whitewash of the Brazilians earlier in the year and boosts the confidence of the Olyroos for their 25-day tour of South America next month.

Before Saturday night's match the Olyroos had defeated New Zealand 1-0 in the first Trans-Tasman encounter in Townsville the previous weekend and then 2-0 in Lismore last Wednesday.

Blanco had been a little disappointed with those efforts, but gained much more satisfaction from the third game.

"In the first game we were rusty, in the second we improved a little bit and now the signs are that we are coming good at the right time," Blanco said.

"We need to be in top condition when we arrive in South America. We play internationals against Argentina and Chile and they will be very difficult on their home soil, but I feel we are getting better and we are going to be a tough opposition to anybody we play."

The Olyroos have gone straight into an eight-day camp since arriving back in Sydney. They will then have five days off before the squad of 20 players departs.

Five players from the Australian under-20's squad, currently on their own tour of South America, will join the Olyroos and five players from the Trans-Tasman tour will be left at home.

Olyroos captain Brett Emerton was a standout performer on Saturday night. He scored the first goal and his brillance brought praise from New Zealand coaching director Joe McGrath.

"Emerton is a class act, I think he's a really good player," McGrath said.

McGrath said New Zealand now needed to rethink their plans in the lead-up to their Olympic qualifying matches which begin in New Zealand next year.

Australia led 2-0 at halftime after the youngest Olyroo, 18-year-old Leo Carle, scored the second goal after 25 minutes. New Zealand, inspired by aggressive mid-fielder Dean Dodds, came out more determined in the second half, but were unable to find the net.

Clayton Zane from the Newcastle Breakers scored the third goal and Glen Kolpak from the Queensland State League scored from a spectacular diving header to notch Australia's fourth goal five minutes from fulltime.

A crowd of about 5000 watched the clash. Promoters were pleased with the event and negotiations are taking place to bring more top class soccer to Coffs Harbour.

A plan to play an Ericsson Cup pre-season tournement, involving up to six national teams, is currently being tossed around the boardrooms of Soccer Australia.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
11th. July 1998,	Estadio Pedro Bidegain, Boedo, Buenos Aires,			

San Lorenzo (Argentina)..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
								DF	Tansel Başer				
								DF	Dragi Nastevski				
								DF	Sebastian Sinozic		X		
								DF	Ivan Zelic				
								DF	Željko Suša				
								MF	Jacob Burns				
								MF	Mark "Marco" Bresciano				
								MF	Kasey Wehrman		X		
								MF	Brett Emerton				
								FW	Michael Curcija				
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				
								FW	Christian Care				
								MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. July 1998,	Argentina			

Maccabi (Argentina)..0 v. Australia U-23..10

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. July 1998,	Estadio San Carlos de Apoquindo, Santiago, Chile			

Club Deportivo Universidad Católica Youth (Chile)..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
18th. July 1998,	Estadio Municipal de La Florida, La Florida, Chile			

Audax Italiano..1 v. Australia U-23..5

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
								MF	Brett Emerton	X			
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
21st. July 1998,	Juan Pinto Durán Sporting Complex, Santiago, Chile			

Chile U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Chile U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
								DF	Dragi Nastevski				
								DF	Tansel Başer				
								DF	Ivan Zelic				
								DF	Sebastian Sinozic				
								DF	Željko Suša		X	72	
								MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				
		Jose Gutierrez	50					MF	Jacob Burns				
								MF	Kasey Wehrman				71
								MF	Brett Emerton	60(pk)			
								FW	Michael Curcija				63
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Christian Care				71
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				63, 84
								FW	Mile Sterjovski				84

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
29th. July 1998,	Buenos Aires, Argentina			No public access

Argentina U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Argentina U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
								DF	Dragi Nastevski				
								DF	Tansel Başer				
								DF	Ivan Zelic				
								DF	Sebastian Sinozic				
								DF	Željko Suša				
								MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				50
								MF	Jacob Burns				
								MF	Kasey Wehrman				
								MF	Brett Emerton (c)	28			
								FW	Michael Curcija				60
SUBSTITUTES													
								MF	Mark "Marco" Bresciano				50
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				60

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
7th. September 1998,	Parklea, Sydney, New South Wales			

Sydney United..? v. Australia U-23..?

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
SUBSTITUTES													

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
9th. September 1998,	Brandon Park, Wollongong, New South Wales			

Wollongong City Wolves..1 v. Australia U-23..0

half time, Wollongong City Wolves..1 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Les Pogliacomi											
	DF	George Souris						DF	Jacob Burns				
	DF	Alvin Ceccoli						DF	Simon Colosimo				
	DF	Matthew "Matt" Horsley (c)	35					DF	Sebastian Sinozic				
	DF	David Huxley						DF	Brett Emerton (c)				
								MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				
								MF	Jason Culina				
	MF	Anthony Surjan											
	FW	Sasho Dimoski											
	FW	Michael Brooks											
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Sasho Petrovski						MF	Noel Spencer				X
								FW	Kosta Salapasidis				X*
								FW	Tony Perinich				

Team Coach	Nick Theodorakopoulos	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

The Olyroos squad was:-
Dejan "Danny" Milosevic, Joseph "Joey" Didulica, Zeljko Susa, Ivan Zelic, Jacob Burns, Brett Emerton, Sebastian Sinozic, Noel Spencer, Mile Sterjovski, Kasey Wehrman, Marco "Mark" Bresciano, Simon Colosimo, Michael Curcija, Vincenzo "Vince" Grella, Dragi Nastevski, Patricio "Andy" Vargas, Christian Care, Kosta Salapasidis.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
25th. November 1998,	Marconi Oval, Bossley Park, Sydney, New South Wales			1500

Australia U-23..0 v. People's Republic of China U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. People's Republic of China U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic						GK	Li Jian				
	DF	Hayden Foxe						DF	Xu Yunlong				
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						DF	Wang Chao				
	DF	Ivan Zelic						DF	Hao Wei				78
	DF	Brett Emerton						MF	Zheng Zhi				
	MF	Michael Garcia				59		MF	Li Yan				
	MF	Mark "Marco" Bresciano				82		MF	Min Jin				
	MF	Jason Culina				59*		MF	Zhang Ran				
	MF	Kasey Wehrman						MF	Tao Wei				
	FW	Michael Curcija				59**		FW	Li Yi	52			65
	FW	Kosta Salapasidis						FW	Zhang Yuning				65*
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Jacob Burns				59			Qu Dong				78
	DF	Željko Suša				82		MF	Shang Yi				65
	MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				59*		MF	Zhang Xiaorui				65*
	MF	Carlos Gonzalez				59**							

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Keith Blunt
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Simon Micallef		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 19, Number 906, 1/12/1998, page 4

An uninspired Australian Olyroo team, outmanoeuvred by a resolute and athletic Chinese team, lost only its second game in two years when it was defeated 1-0 at Marconi Stadium last Wednesday evening in the first of a two game challenge series.

Neither side had an ideal preparation for the game as the Olyroos had only one training session whilst the Chinese team came together for the first time only two weeks ago.

Neither team was at full strength as China had seven of its team chosen for the full national squad playing in the Asian Games and Australia was missing its overseas contingent, including Harry Kewell, as well as the injured Simon Colosimo.

With the J-League season completed one overseas player that did make an appearance was the Sanfrece Hiroshima defender, Hayden Foxe. Fresh from an excellent performance for the full national team in the game against the USA, Foxe was the outstanding player for the home team.

His distribution was, at times, breathtaking with fifty metre cross-field passes finding its intended target with inch perfect precision. He diminished his effectiveness somewhat with the occasional over elaborate dribbling which resulted in the forfeiture of the ball.

The Chinese team are a very fit and speedy team whilst a number of their players, particularly the central striker Zhang Yuning and the two central defenders, are, surprisingly, tall and physically formidable.

China played a counter attacking game, although this was unintentional, according to their English coach, Keith Blunt. Blunt said it was not their game plan but rather eventuated because of the Australian's greater possession of the ball.

Indeed the Olyroos, particularly in the first half, had the majority of possession but they tended to complicate things with intricate passing between the defence and midfield without ever providing the two strikers, Michael Curcija and Kosta Salapasidis, with the type of service they required.

On a few occasions the passes did produce opportunities and such an occasion occurred in the 14th minute of the first half. A combination between Kasey Wehrman, Jason Culina and Brett Emerton provided the latter with the opportunity to take the ball to the bye line from where he produced a good cross that was headed out by the Chinese defence.

The clearance saw Culina in the right spot for a shot on goal but he didn't connect cleanly and the shot was deflected away for a corner.

The best chance of the half, for either side, fell to China in the 20th minute when a pass from Foxe to Culina found him surrounded by two defenders, right on the touchline and facing his own goal. Culina retreated but his only option was to pass back to the goal-keeper, Danny Milosevic.

Unfortunately, his pass was too short and Zhang Yuning intercepted just inside the penalty box. He beat Milosevic but his shot, from an acute angle, was easily cleared by Sebastian Sinozic.

The rest of the half produced a few half chances for both teams but neither goal-keeper was unduly troubled.

Australia continued in the same intricate passing vein for the first part of the second half but produced no goal scoring opportunities. The absence of the urgency and directness for which he had asked for the second half prompted Blanco to make a triple change in the 50th minute with Jacob Burns, Andy Vargas and Carlos Gonzales coming into the game.

The change had no immediate affect and, instead, the Chinese team took the lead in the 53rd minute.

One too many passes resulted in the ball ending up at the feet of Zhang Kan just inside his own half but with only the defenders in front of him. He quickly chipped the ball over the top of Ivan Zelic who had to turn to chase the ball.

Li Yi had too much speed for Zelic and took the ball inside the penalty area where he produced a powerful, low strike past Milosevic's right.
Six minutes later China had another clear opportunity when their busy left midfielder, Tao Wei, produced a deep cross that provided Zhang Yuning with a clear opportunity. Zhang's powerful but unchallenged header was missing the accuracy and went harmlessly wide of Milosevic's right post.
In the 69th minute an attempted headed back pass from Xu Yunlong almost went astray as it was miss directed but the goal-keeper was able to retrieve the situation with a good save.
The Olyroos lost their shape for most of the second half and China was unlucky not to score a couple of times through counter attacking football.
In the last ten minutes the Australians finally showed a sense of urgency as they scrambled for the equaliser. They forced the Chinese defence to concede a number of corners and on two occasions they came within a whisker of achieving their aim.
In the 86th minute a corner from Wehrman on the right soared over the defenders to the waiting head of Emerton on the far post. His header was well struck but hit the post and bounced out.
Two minutes later a move involving Foxe, Wehrman and Bresciano saw the little Carlton midfielder cross the ball to the substitute, Gonzales. He controlled the ball well in a crowded goal mouth but his weak shot was deflected for a corner. Blunt was very happy with the result of the game and how his team played.
He thought the Australians showed good teamwork but the break didn't go their way.
Blanco was unhappy with the performance of his team. He said,"we didn't play the way we had to, we were too casual and lacked directness, which is the way we have to play."

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
27th. November 1998,	Brandon Park, Wollongong, New South Wales			2000

Australia U-23..3 v. People's Republic of China U-23..3

half time, Australia U-23..2 v. People's Republic of China U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic		X				GK	Li Jian				
	DF	Tansel Başer						DF	Xu Yunlong				
	DF	Hayden Foxe	21, 82					DF	Wang Chao				85
	DF	Sebastian Sinozic						MF	Zheng Zhi				
	DF	Ivan Zelic				46		DF	Hao Wei		X		
	DF	Željko Suša				63		MF	Li Yan				
	MF	Mark "Marco" Bresciano						MF	Min Jin				74
	MF	Jacob Burns		X				MF	Zhang Ran	87			79
	MF	Carlos Gonzalez						FW	Li Yi	26			
	MF	Kasey Wehrman		X		70		FW	Zhang Yuning				
	FW	Michael Curcija	16	X				MF	Tao Wei	28(pk)			
						SUBSTITUTES							
	DF	Dragi Nastevski				46			Qu Dong				85
	MF	Jason Culina				63		MF	Xue Shen				74
	MF	Patricio "Andy" Vargas				70		DF	Li Yi'nan				79
Team Coach		Raul Blanco					Team Coach						
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Brett Hugo											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report is an extract of a report for www.ozfootball.net by Stephen Webb

Australia: Milosevic, Baser, Foxe, Sinozic, Zelic, Burns, Bresciano, Susa, Wehrman, Curcija, Gonzalez

Nastevski came on for Zelic, Culina came on for Susa, and Vargas came on for Wehrman in the second half.

What started looking so good for the Olyroos was turned very sour by lax and silly stupid things. Hayden Foxe may have been a hero with two goals, but he is scary to watch sometimes. He was not alone in not seeming to take the game very seriously.

In stark contrast to the other night, we started with more shots than China. We had a chance in the first few minutes when Susa headed onto the crossbar and another shot bouncing clear off a Chinese shirt.

Sinozic looked cool and impressive but seldom had need to shine because Foxe was so dominant. Wanting the ball and usually using it well. His long balls were as effective tonight as they were on Wednesday.

Burns was trying to do Emerton's job down the right flank. Susa and Curcija were looking like scoring any minute. Gonzalez hardly seemed to get a touch in the first half (though was involved a bit more in the second half). Curcija's goal on 15 minutes came with three Australian players frenzying to get an angle on the target in the goal box.

It wasn't one way traffic, though. China still were dangerous on the counter attack. Milosevic was soon called on to save a soft shot. Then we had China's keeper struggling with a couple of Aussie corners before Susa was blocked running at goal and Foxe scored with an excellent free kick.

Just when it looked like an Aussie goal blitz (or at least a comfortable revenge win) Foxe stuffs a back pass and sets up Li Yi for an easy goal.

China's next goal was from a penalty. Milosevic just caught the guy's feet as he tried to run past. But I thought Milosevic should have gathered the ball in the first place. But even if the Chinese guy hadn't gone down so easily and he had stayed on his feet, he could have finished it.

Wehrman was busy but not as effective as on Monday. Bresciano wasn't as involved as on Wednesday, though did get more of the ball as the others ran down.

China could have had their third near half time when their number 10 missed an opportunity when the ball fell to his feet in the Olyroo penalty area.

In the second half Susa hit a wonderful ball to an offside Wehrman who hit the post anyway. Culina came on and showed us some of his magic turns and once tried to lob the keeper but it went just wide.

Foxe's second came thanks to some Chinese goalmouth errors. And their third came from goalmouth tentativeness on our part after Vargas hit a deplorable crossfield pass, backwards and out, from the throw-in they hit the ball into the area and we didn't win after all.

Culina had a last minute shot that forced their keeper to the ground. But, generally, disappointing.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. January 1999,	SS Anderson Reserve, Port Melbourne, Victoria			

Port Melbourne Sharks S.C. ..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Smith				46		GK	Joe Didulica				46
	DF	John Paul Knezevic						DF	Brett Emerton				46*
		Jimmy Latinopoulos						DF	Christopher "Chris" Coyne				46**
	DF	Dean Fak						DF	Ivan Zelic				
	DF	John Pappas				X		MF	Michael Garcia				
	DF	Rodrigo Vargas						MF	Raphael Bove				46***
	MF	George Tzirtis						MF	Jason Culina				
	MF	Evis Heath						MF	Mark Robertson				46****
	MF	Nick Palamaris				X*		MF	Michael Curcija				46*****
	FW	Peter Kakos						MF	Kasey Wehrman				
	FW	Nick Tsaltas						FW	Clayton Zane	X, X(pk)			
						SUBSTITUTES							
	GK	Sam Frangos				46		GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				46
		Alex Jackson				X		MF	Jacob Burns				46*
	MF	Kosta Caimakamis				X*		DF	Sebastian Sinozic				46**
		Alex Efstathiou						DF	Dragi Nastevski				46***
								DF	Željko Suša	X			46****
								FW	Mile Sterjovski				46*****

Team Coach	Peter Tsolakis	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. January 1999,	Mobil Park, Morwell, Victoria	Fine	30C	1500

Australia U-23..0 v. Korea Republic U-23..1

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Korea Republic U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica					18	GK	Kim Yong-Dae				
2	DF	Brett Emerton (c)					24		Chung Dae-Hoon				55
4	DF	Christopher "Chris" Coyne		93			15	DF	Cho Se-Kwon				
14	DF	Sebastian Sinozic		56			4	DF	Park Jin-Sub		26		
12	DF	Dragi Nastevski					5	DF	Sim Jae-Won		9		
15	MF	Jacob Burns				82	19	DF	Park Dong-Hyuk				
8	MF	Mark Robertson				46	22	MF	Lee Kwan-Woo	17			46
5	MF	Raphael Bove					6	MF	Kim Do-Kyun (c)		88		
10	MF	Kasey Wehrman		8		46*	16	FW	An Hyo-Yeon				62
9	MF	Michael Curcija					9	FW	Seol Ki-Hyeon				
11	FW	Clayton Zane				30	23	FW	Choi Chul-Woo				46*
SUBSTITUTES													
16	DF	Željko Suša				82	2		Lee Sang-Tae				55
17	MF	Christian Care				46*	10	FW	Sin Byung-Ho				46
7	MF	Jason Culina				46	17	FW	Chung Seok-Keun				62
19	FW	Mile Sterjovski				30	12		Park Rae-Cheol		86		46*

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Huh Jung-Moo
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Gerry Connolly		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Chung Seok-Keun is also shown as Jung Seok-Keun and Chung Seok-Geun.
Lee Kwan-Woo is also shown as Lee Gwan-Woo. Seol Ki-Hyeon is also shown as Seol Ki-Hyun. Sin Byung-Ho is also shown as Shin Byung-Ho. Park Rae-Cheol is also shown as Park Nae-Chul.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 913, 19/01/1999, page 4
A 30 metre bender from midfielder Lee Kwan-Woo was enough for the South Korean Olympic team to defeat Australia in the Olyroo Challenge at Mobil Park on Friday night.
The speed of the South Koreans brought the Olyroos undone on several occasions, particularly on the counter-attack in the second half where they could have scored at least two more goals. The Olyroos were denied what looked to be a good claim for a penalty in the last minute when Christian Care was brought down by Seol Ki-Hyeon.
Brett Emerton had sent the Marconi Fairfield midfielder clear only for him to be shoved over by South Korea's best player, Seol, once inside the penalty area, but referee Gerry Connolly waved away the Olyroo protests.
Olyroo coach Raul Blanco said after the match that he believed it should have been a penalty.
"It was a clear penalty, in any other country in the world that would have been a penalty", said Blanco.
Disaster struck the Olyroos before kick off with defender Ivan Zelic straining his right thigh in the warm-up.
Zelic had to be replaced by Dragi Nastevski in the starting line-up. Despite this setback, the Australians hit the South Koreans hard, and should have scored inside the first minute.
Clayton Zane's cross was dropped by keeper Kim Yong-Dae right at the feet of Michael Curcija whose left foot volley was cleared off the line by Sim Jae-Won.
The South Korea's pace began to worry the Australians, especially on the flanks where they had far too much room.
The visitors went ahead in the 17th minute, Lee Kwan-Woo picked up the loose ball in midfield before firing a left foot shot from 30 metres that gave little chance for Joe Didulica.
The Olyroo keeper was called into action eight minutes later when he tipped Choi Chui-woo's curling shot around the post.
West Ham's Chris Coyne almost brought the Olyroos level on the half hour, but his shot from 25 metres was well saved by Kim Yong-Dae.
There was more bad news for the Olyroos shortly after that with a back injury to Zane that forced him to leave the park, replaced by Mile Sterjovski.
South Korea's scorer, Lee Kwan-Woo, a constant menace to Australia in the first half, was also injured just before half time, after copping an elbow to the neck.
Jason Culina and Care came on at half time for Kasey Wehrman and Mark Robertson.
They added a bit more to the Olyroo midfield, particularly Culina who nearly equalised with his first touch, but his header from Sterjovski's cross sailed just wide of the post.
Although Australia were vastly improved in the second half, there was the ever-present danger of South Korea on the counter.
Sin Byung-Ho had a free kick deflected by the defensive wall that wrong-footed Didulica that went awfully close.
Sterjovski and Coyne came close for the Olyroos in quick succession whilst up the other end, Didulica denied Seol Ki-Hyeon with a fine save.
Australia, pushing men up looking for the equaliser, left themselves vulnerable at the back and had Coyne to thank after he cleared Sin Byung-Ho's shot off the line.
Olyroo skipper Emerton was presented with an opportunity that he should have done better with in the 68th minute, but he blasted way over the bar from just outside the six yard area. Goalkeeper Kim Yong-Dae was proving hard to beat, Care was the next to find that out when he saw his shot from outside the box brilliantly saved.
Park Rae-Cheol and Park Jin-Sup had opportunities for South Korea to extend their lead in the dying minutes.
Blanco was happy with the way the Olyroos came back into the game in the second half after a disappointing first period.
"The first half didn't go as well as I wanted. We were a little timid and didn't take the game to them but in the second half we rectified that," Blanco explained.

"We were forced to make three changes (Zelic, Zane and Wehrman), but that's soccer.
"South Korea are a very good team, they're very quick and our boys don't encounter such speed in the National League but we adjusted to it as the game went on."
Emerton also said that the second half showing was much better from the Olyroos.
"Apart from the first 20 minutes we did quite well. We gave the ball away too easily and when they got it they made us chase them and hit us on the counter, that's where they had the game over us."
South Korean coach, Huh Jun-Moo, said that his side has only just been assembled and have little experience and was pleased with the performance.
"The team was nervous at the start. In the first half the defence was a little bit shaky, in the second half we had so many chances on the counter-attack but couldn't get the second goal."
MATCH STATS. ..
AUSTRALIA U/23..0 SOUTH KOREA U/23..1
Lee Kwan-Woo 17
At Mobil Park, Gippsland.
Conditions: Fine night, 25-30 degrees.
Crowd: Approx. 1,500
Referee: Gerry Connolly.
Australia: Didulica, Bove, Coyne, Sinozic, Nastevski, Burns (Susa 82), Robertson (Culina 46), Emerton, Wehrman (Care 46), Curcija, Zane (Sterjovski 30).
South Korea: Kim Yong-Dae, Chung Dae-Hoon (Lee Sang-Tae 55), Cho Se-Kwon, Park Jin-Sub, Sim Jae-Won, Park Dong-Hyuk, Lee Kwan-Woo (Sin Byung-Ho 46), Kim Do-Kyun, An Hyo-Yeon (Chung Seok-Keun 62), Seol Ki-Hyeon, Choi Chul-Woo (Park Rae-Cheol 46).
Yellows: Australia: Wehrman 8, Sinozic 56, Coyne 90. South Korea: Sim Jae-Won 9, Park Jin-Sub 26, Park Rae-Cheol 86, Kim Do-Kyun 88.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
22nd. January 1999,	Bob Jane Stadium, Melbourne, Victoria			3500

Australia U-23..0 v. Korea Republic U-23..2

half time, Australia U-23..0 v. Korea Republic U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
1	GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica					1	GK	Chung Yoo-Seok (c)				
2	DF	Brett Emerton (c)					15	DF	Cho Se-Kwon				
4	DF	Christopher "Chris" Coyne					4	DF	Park Jin-Sub		49		
14	DF	Sebastian Sinozic	90(og)				5	DF	Sim Jae-Won				
5	MF	Raphael Bove					3	DF	Park Jae-Hong				69
15	MF	Jacob Burns					19	DF	Park Dong-Hyuk				
8	MF	Mark Robertson					13	MF	Kim Nam-Il				36
10	MF	Kasey Wehrman				69	22	MF	Lee Kwan-Woo				77
9	MF	Michael Curcija		3		75	16	FW	An Hyo-Yeon		32		
7	MF	Jason Culina		57			9	FW	Seol Ki-Hyeon	25			
19	FW	Mile Sterjovski				60	20	FW	Lee Dong-Gook				77*
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Peter Buljan				60	24		Chung Dae-Hoon				69
3	MF	Michael Garcia				69	6	MF	Kim Do-Kyun				36
17	MF	Christian Care				75	12		Park Rae-Cheol				77
							23	FW	Choi Chul-Woo				77*

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Huh Jung-Moo
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Mark Shield		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Another source has Mile Sterjovski being substituted by Clayton Zane.

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 914, 26/01/1999, page 4
South Korea completed a double victory over Australia in the Olyroo Challenge on Friday night, winning 2-0 at Bob Jane Stadium.
The match was marred by severe thunderstorms that raged throughout the game, dumping litres of rain onto the pitch and basically ruining the game as a spectacle.
South Korea, once again, were good value for their win and, had it not been for a penalty save by Joe Didulica, the margin would have been greater.
Granted, the conditions were absolutely shocking, but the South Koreans played them smarter than the Olyroos.
While the Olyroos played a short passing game that came undone on a waterlogged pitch, South Korea played it simpler, kick it and chase it.
Olyroo coach Raul Blanco said that the team had not played it intelligently.
"We tried the short passing game when the conditions did not allow us to do so. The Koreans played it very cleverly. This is due to the inexperience in international football that our boys have. That's the reality, we were not used to the pace of it."
So bad was the torrential rain at one stage that referee Mark Shield consulted both coaches whether the game should be stopped to wait for the rain to ease.
The game carried on but it was debatable whether it was safe to or not.
Olyroo skipper, Brett Emerton, said later that it was the worst he had played in but said that it was safe for the game to continue.
The Olyroos seemed to cope with the South Koreans much better in the early stages of the game than they did a week ago in Gippsland.
But they fell behind in the 25th minute.
Sim Jae-Won floated a long ball forward into the Olyroo penalty area and Raphael Bove, the Olyroo nearest to the ball lost his footing letting in Seol Ki-Hyeon who slotted the ball under the body of Didulica.
It was a goal that owed much to the conditions but it was a reward for the South Koreans who played it with a simple approach and waited for a mistake from the Olyroo defence which was forthcoming.
Michael Curcija thought he had earned the Olyroos a penalty just a few minutes later, but referee Shield waved play on after the South Melbourne striker appeared to be taken down by Sim Jae-Won.
South Kore remained in control and threatened to double their lead but efforts from An Hyo-Yeon and Seol Ki-Hyeon were just off target.
The Olyroos put their best move of the match together a minute before half-time.
Mile Sterjovski, on the left hand side, crossed for Sydney United teammate Jacob Burns whose shot on the run came back off the crossbar.
With the conditions at their worst, the Olyroos then gave away a penalty.
Chris Coyne's rash sliding tackle on Lee Dong-Gook was only going to end one way, a penalty for the South Koreans.
Lee Dong-Gook, a member of the South Korean World Cup squad in France, picked himself up and had his spot kick superbly saved by Didulica.
In what were terrible conditions for a goalkeeper, Didulica had a fine game.
Wollongong Wolves' Sebastian Sinozic was having one of those nights where absolutely nothing went right.
Every time he cleared the ball it seemed it would end up at the feet of a South Korean or go out for a corner.
He was beaten all ends-up in the 88th minute by Seol Ki-Hyeon who crossed for substitute Choi Chul-Woo to give him a free header which he muffed.
Just when Sinozic might have been thinking that his night couldn't get any worse, it did, four minutes into stoppage time.

Chung Dae-Hoon sent over what was a harmless looking cross and Sinozic. Perhaps unnecessarily, stuck out his leg and accidentally lobbed Didulica.
It was a rather fitting way to end what was a fairly ordinary evening for the Olyroos.
MATCH STATS. ..
AUSTRALIA U/23..0 SOUTH KOREA U/23..2
Seol Ki-Hyeon 25, Sinozic og 90.
At Bob Jane Stadium, Melbourne.
Crowd: Approx. 3,500
Referee: Mark Shield.
Australia: Didulica, Bove, Coyne, Sinozic, Sterjovski (Buljan 60), Burns, Robertson, Emerton, Wehrman (Garcia 60), Curcija (Care 75), Culina.
South Korea: Chung Yoo-Seok, Cho Se-Kwon, Park Jin-Sub, Sim Jae-Won, Park Jae-Hong (Chung Dae-Hoon 69), Park Dong-Hyuk, Kim Nam-Il (Kim Do-Kyun 36), Lee Kwan-Woo (Park Rae-Chul 77), An Hyo-Yeon, Seol Ki-Hyeon, Lee Dong-Gook (Choi Chul-Woo 77).
Yellows: Australia: Curcija (3), Culina (57). South Korea: An Hyo-Yeon (32), Park Jin-Sub (49).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
12th. May 1999,	Urawa, Japan			15000

Japan U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Japan U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK							GK	Peter Zois				
	DF	Kazuyuki Toda						DF	Simon Colosimo				
								DF	Hayden Foxe	70			
								DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				
	MF	Hidetoshi Nakata						DF	Tansel Başer				81
	MF	Shunsuke Nakamura						DF	Lucas Neill				87
	MF	Junichi Inamoto						DF	Brett Emerton				
	MF	Tomokazu Myojin						MF	Raphael Bove				
								MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				
	FW	Atsushi Yanagisawa						MF	Vasilios "Bill" Damianos				72
	FW	Kenji Fukuda				X		FW	Archibald "Archie" Thompson				55
SUBSTITUTES													
	FW	Tomoyuki Hirase				X		DF	Christopher "Chris" Coyne				81
								DF	Željko Suša				87
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				72
								MF	Kasey Wehrman				55

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1	Paul Cetrangolo (Australia)		
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
?th. June 1999,	AIS Fields, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory			

A.C.T. Rockets..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, ACT Rockets..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Tony Giannasca						GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
								DF	Brett Emerton				
								DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis	X			
								MF	Michael Garcia				
								MF	Michael Curcija				
		Steve Lazzari											
								FW	Clayton Zane	58, 88			
SUBSTITUTES													
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				

Team Coach	Ian Heywood	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 934, 8/6/1999, page 15

A who's-who of Australian coaching was on hand to watch the Olyroos comfortably account for the ACT Rockets at the Australian Institute of Sport.

Raul Blanco and Les Scheinflug were joined by a host of NSL coaches, including Ange Poatecoglou, Graham Arnold and David Mitchell, who are at the camp to gain their level-3 accreditation under the revamped national coaching system.

The Rockets, a representative side drawn from the ACT Premier League, were always expected to struggle with the tempo on a small, dewy AIS pitch, and only some heroic goalkeeping from Tony Giannaca coupled with bad finishing from the Olyroos kept the scoreline 0-0 at the half-time break.

A rare chance to the Rockets in the 52nd minute could have seen the underdogs take a surprise lead, however Steve Lazzari found his shot blocked by Olyroos goalkeeper Joe Didulica.

The Olyroos finally breached the valiant but tired Rocket's defence in the 58th minute when Giannasca's goal kick was headed back by Con Blatsis into the path of second-half substitute Nick Carle.

The Sydney Olympic attacker charged down the left-hand flank before knocking the ball to an unmarked Clayton Zane at the far post who tapped in for the Olyroos first goal.

Giannasca made excellent saves to deny Brett Emerton and Michael Garcia in the 62nd and 81st minutes, before two late goals put the result beyond any doubt.

The first of these came from an Olyroos corner which Zane nodded back across goal into the path of Blatsis, who headed home powerfully from close range. Then with just two minutes remaining, Michael Curcija swung over a right-foot cross for Zane to notch up his second.

Olyroos' coach Raul Blanco said he was pleased with his side's performance given they had only been together for three days and had been undergoing an intensive training and testing schedule.

"Taking all of this into consideration I was quite happy," he said.

"I think they moved the ball well, they were very comfortable and obviously they won the game easily."

Rockets' coach Ian Heywood said his charges did well to hold the 'second-best team in Australia' to a half-time score of 0-0.

"We knew we weren't going to get a lot of possession," Heywood said.

"We knew we had to defend for long periods of time. Overall it was a good performance.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
??. June 1999,	Marconi Oval, Bossley Park, Sydney, New South Wales			800

Australia..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time,

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Mark Bosnich				X		GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				X
	DF	Kevin Muscat						DF	Ivan Zelic				
	DF	Alexander "Alex" Tobin						DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				
	DF	Antony "Tony" Popovic						DF	Željko Suša				
	DF	Antony "Tony" Vidmar						MF	Jacob Burns				
	DF	Nedjeljko "Ned" Zelic				X**		MF	Michael Garcia				
	MF	Josip Skoko				X*		MF	Badawi "Buddy" Farah				
	MF	Aurelio Vidmar						MF	Michael Curcija				
	MF	Stephen "Steve" Corica						MF	Kasey Wehrman	X			
	FW	Mark Viduka				X***		FW	Clayton Zane				
	FW	Harold "Harry" Kewell				X****		FW	Mile Sterjovski				
SUBSTITUTES													
	GK	Zeljko Kalac				X		GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				X
	DF	Hayden Foxe				X*		DF	Dragi Nastevski				
	MF	Vincenzo "Vince" Grella				X**		MF	George Goutzoulis				
	MF	Brett Emerton				X***		FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				
	DF	Simon Colosimo				X****		MF	Nikola "Nick" Sabljak				

Team Coach	Raul Blanco	Team Coach	Adrian Santrac
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
20th. June 1999,	Bishan Stadium, Singapore			6000

Singapore..0 v. Australia U-23..5

half time, Singapore..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Rezal Hassan						GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				
	DF	Lim Tong Hai				46		DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis				
	DF	Abdul Aziz Salim						DF	Dragi Nastevski				
	DF	Robin Chitrakar						DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				75
	DF	Tan Kim Leng						DF	Brett Emerton	25			
	DF	Zulkarnaen Zainal				46*		DF	Željko Suša				58
	MF	Mohamad Noor bin Mohamad Ali						MF	Jacob Burns				
	MF	Mohamed Nazri bin Nasir (c)						MF	Michael Garcia				62
	MF	Hafizat Jauharmi						MF	Kasey Wehrman	40			75*
	MF	Azhar Salleh				54		MF	Michael Curcija	52, 82			
	FW	Indra Sahdan Daud						FW	Clayton Zane	57			58*
						SUBSTITUTES							
	DF	Mohamad Hairi Suap		X	78	46		DF	Michael Santalab				62
	FW	Ahmad Latiff Khamaruddin				54		MF	Badawi "Buddy" Farah				75
	MF	Hasrin bin Jailani				46*		MF	Nikola "Nick" Sabljak				75*
								MF	George Goutzoulis				58
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				58*

Team Coach	Vincent Subramaniam	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Mohamed Nazri bin Nasir is also shown as Xazri Nasir. Robin Chitrakar is also shown as Kobin Chitrakar. Ahmad Latiff Khamaruddin is also shown as Ahmad Latiff Chamarudin and Ahmad Latiff Khamarudin. Mohamad Hairi Suap is also shown as Mohamad Hairi Su'ap.

match report from The Straits Times, 21/6/1999, page 40
Singapore has lots of work ahead if it wants that SEA Games gold.
It was a pre-South-east Asia Games lesson that national soccer coach Vincent Subramaniam wanted and that is what he got.
The Under-23 boys of the Australian pre-Olympic team taught the men of Singapore well with a 5-0 drubbing at the Bishan Stadium last night.
The Olyroos, as the visitor is popularly known, was so dominant in the match that its goalkeeper Danny Milosevic had only two shots to save in the entire 90 minutes.
At the other end, Singapore custodian Rezal Hassan was on the ball almost every third minute. Besides picking the ball from the back of the net, he had to save a penalty, meet head on with at least five point-blank shots and help a panicky defence time and again.
Granted that last night's team -- minus the likes of S. Subramani, Aide Iskandar, Kadir Yahaya, Samawira Basri and Rafi Ali -- was not the best in the Republic.
Granted that the regional opponents will not be as physically tough and demanding as the Australians.
And granted there is still time before the Games' soccer competition kicks off on July 29.
But still the Games' gold medal dream will remain just that if things do not pick up for Vincent and his boys.
Said the national coach later: "There were some disappointments among the players. They just confirmed tonight that their poor performance in the S-League has nothing to do with the type of players they are playing with.
"I am going to pick the final squad based on performance not names."
A makeshift defence, with Balestier Central's Aziz Salim making his international debut alongside Lim Tong Hai and Robin Chitrakar, was at sea for most of the match.
After some good passes in the first five minutes, the Lions lost confidence in holding on to the ball as the match turned into an attack versus defence game.
As Singapore failed to keep possession of the ball in midfield, where only captain Nazri Nasir measured up to the Aussies, it was only a matter of time that the defence would cave in.
In the 22nd minute it happened. A mis-judged jump saw Aziz missing a header as the ball bounced past a puzzled Lim who could not catch up with Brett Emerton. The Olyroo went on to slot the ball past Rezal.
Singapore's only chance in the half fell to lone striker Indra Sahdan Daud who, after an exchange of passes with Azhar Salleh, mis-timed his shot across the face of the goal in the 32nd minute.
The Aussie made it 2-0 just before the break when Rezal could only parry Emerton's shot into the path of the on-rushing Kasey Wehrman.
Vincent made some changes after the break but that did not change the complexion of the match.
In fact Lim's replacement, Hairi Suap, was so hapless that he lasted only 27 minutes before being sent off for two bookable tackles.
By then the score was already 4-0 with Michael Curcija and Clayton Zane finding the net in two minutes from the 55th. One minute after Hairi was sacked, Curcija made it 5-0.
Five minutes from time, Rezal pushed away Emerton's spot kick for one of Singapore's few highlights.
And if there was another consolation, it was that the host smothered the Australian threat completely from corners and the numerous set pieces.
Other than that, it was a lesson that could not have come earlier for a team that is targetting the coveted SEA Games gold medal.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
30th. June 1999,	North Harbour Stadium, Auckland, New Zealand			5000

New Zealand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

half time, New Zealand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..2

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
	GK	Robbie Barraclough						GK	Joseph "Joey" Didulica				
	DF	Sakdy Phomahaxay						DF	Dragi Nastevski				
	DF	Greg Uhlmann						DF	Simon Colosimo				
	DF	Gareth Rowe						DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				
	MF	Joe Murray				X		DF	Brett Emerton (c)				
	MF	Jeremy Brown				X*		DF	Željko Suša				55
13	MF	Graham Pearce						MF	Michael Garcia				
	MF	Gerard Davis						MF	Jacob Burns				
	MF	Ian Robinson						MF	Kasey Wehrman				
	MF	Raffaele de Gregorio				X**		MF	Michael Curcija				
	FW	Campbell Banks						FW	Clayton Zane	15, 44			65
SUBSTITUTES													
	MF	Jeffrey "Jeff" Campbell				X		MF	George Goutzioulis				55
	MF	Blair Scoullar				X*		FW	Nicholas "Nick" Carle				65
	DF	Duncan Oughton				X**							
Team Coach		Ricki Herbert & Ron Armstrong					Team Coach		Raul Blanco				
Team Manager							Team Manager						
Referee		Neil Fox											
Assistant Referee 1													
Assistant Referee 2													

match report from the New Zealand Herald, 1/7/199, page B4

The wag in the stand got it right when he forlornly yelled at the Australians to "give us a kick."

Such was the Olyroos' dominance, especially in the first half of last night's under-23 soccer international, the New Zealanders struggled to compete.

The visitors left North Harbour Stadium 2-0 winners. A deserved result but one which at least gave the home side some hope after taking almost an hour to find their feet - and some belief.

The New Zealand side - barely 48 hours together - never gave up even if they spent long periods chasing shadows and an occasional loose ball.

But for the generosity of the Lion Foundation in paying for a new playing strip after a fire at New Zealand Soccer headquarters early yesterday damaged their original kit, the New Zealanders might not have even looked, let alone played, like an international side.

The Australians showed some nice touches and were deserved pre-match favourites given their time together and a 5-0 win over a Singapore national side the All Whites struggled to beat 1-0 on Tuesday night.

Well-coached, well-drilled and well-prepared, the Olyroos were content to string numerous passes together - often in their own half - before probing the New Zealand defence.

That rearguard, well-led by Gareth Rowe and Ian Robinson despite continual pressure, restricted the visitors to few clear-cut scoring opportunities.

The first, in the 13th minute, earned rangy striker Clayton Zane the opening goal when he headed home a Jacob Burns cross.

Raffaele de Gregorio had the home side's only first half opportunity but blasted his 33rd minute effort high and wide.

Zane scored the Olyroos' second two minutes before halftime, scrambling home after the defence had failed to clear a right wing corner. The second of the two games will be played in Christchurch on Saturday.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
3rd. July 1999,	Queen Elizabeth II Stadium, Christchurch, New Zealand			1000

New Zealand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

half time, New Zealand U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..3

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
						START LIST							
	GK	Robbie Barraclough						GK	Joe Didulica				
	DF	Matt Ayloff	44(og)			X		DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis				
	DF	Gareth Rowe						DF	Simon Colosimo				
	DF	Greg Uhlmann						DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				45
	DF	Matthew Urlovic				46		DF	Brett Emerton (c)				
	DF	Duncan Oughton				X*		DF	Jacob Burns				
	MF	Jeremy Brown						DF	Željko Suša				78
	MF	Graham Pearce						MF	Michael Garcia				
	MF	Raffaele de Gregorio						MF	Kasey Wehrman				46
	MF	Ian Robinson						FW	Michael Curcija	20			
	FW	Campbell Banks						FW	Clayton Zane	15			
						SUBSTITUTES							
	DF	Sakdy Phomahaxay				X		MF	Badawi "Buddy" Farah				45
	MF	Gerard Davis				46		MF	Nikola "Nick" Sabljak				46
	MF	Jeffrey "Jeff" Campbell				X*		MF	George Goutzioulis				78

Team Coach	Ricki Herbert & Ron Armstrong	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee	Brian Precious		
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 938, 6/7/1999, page 4

The Australian Under 23 team has completed a successful overseas tour, with a 3-0 victory over New Zealand in the second and final game against the Kiwis in Christchurch.

The Olyroos, who have been in camp since late May, have had impressive wins over the Singapore Olympic side under their belts on this campaign, as well as two wins over there clossest rivals, New Zealand.

And once again, the Olyroos dominated the action fom the opening whistle.

Carrying on with his great form from the first game against the Kiwis, striker Clayton Zane, who scored two in the teams first clash three days earlier, found the back of the net in the 15th minute to give the Aussies the lead in a rain affected match which marred the game.

Five minutes later, captain Brett Emerton broke down the right flank and sent over a pin-point cross to Michael Curcija, who made it 2-0 to the Australians.

Australia dominated and they put the icing on the cake a minute from half time when once again, Michael Curcija cut in a ball from the left which was deflected by New Zealand defender, Matthew Aywof into the back of his own goal.

Coach Raul Blanco was extremely pleased with the performance of the Olyroos over the last four weeks, and sees the team's form continuing to improve.

Throughout the Olyroo's tour of Singapore and New Zealand, they did not conceed a goal which was a great achievement considering that New Zealand are our closest rivals in Oceania.

The team has arrived home and many will now prepare for the long season ahead and the preparation for our assault on Sydney 2000.

AUSTRALIA U23.. 3 (Zane 15, Curcija 20, Aywof og 44) NEW ZEALAND U23..0

QEII Stadium, Christchurch.

Australian U23s: D.Milosevic, M.Garcia, C.Blatsis, S,Colosimo, S.Laybutt (B.Farah 45), B.Emerton, J.Burns, K.Wehrman (N.Sabljak 45), Z.Susa (G.Goutzoulis 78), M.Curcija, C.Zane.

Crowd: 3,000.

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
2nd. September 1999,	Staplewood Training Ground (Southampton FC Training Ground), Marchwood, England			

Southampton..1 v. Australia U-23..4

half time, Southampton..1 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				46
									Lucas Neill	47			75
								DF	Constantinos "Con" Blatsis				
									Hayden Foxe	65			
								DF	Stephen "Steve" Laybutt				
									Tansel Baser				
			21						Jason Culina				55
									Bill Damianos				78
								DF	Brett Emerton				78*
									Kosta Salapasidis	17			55*
								FW	Nicholas "Nick" Rizzo				75*
SUBSTITUTES													
								GK	Peter Zois				46
									Raphael Bove				75
								MF	Mark "Marco" Bresciano				55
									Mark Robertson				78
								FW	Clayton Zane				78*
									Daniel Allsop	60			55*
								DF	Jacob Burns				75*

Team Coach	David Jones	Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 947, 7/9/1999, page 3

Australia's Olympic team emphatically defeated England Premier League side Southampton 4-1 in the first of two games played as part of their European Camp in England.

Striker Kosta Salapasidis lifted Australia on the scoreboard as early as in the 17th minute, following a Hayden Foxe free kick which had been parried by the Southampton goalkeeper.

Southampton, who fielded six of it's regular first grade line-up, equalised four minutes later, but the Australians were ahead again two minutes into the second half when captain Brett Emerton broke down the right, crossed to Lucas Neill whose left footed drive beat the keeper.

With coach Raul Blanco using the game to experiment with almost his entire squad, substitute Daniel Allsop took just five minutes to make his mark after coming on in the 55th minute for Salapasidis. Allsop headed home a ball from Nick Rizzo to put the 3rd goal on the board on the hour mark.

A few minutes later Rizzo was again in the action, taking an Australian corner which was nodded down by a Southampton defender, but straight into the path of sweeper Hayden Foxe who netted Australia's fourth and final goal.

The Australian line-up was as follows:

D.Milosevic (P.Zois 46th), L.Neill (R.Bove 75th), C.Blatsis, H.Foxe, S.Laybutt, T.Baser, J.Culina (M.Bresciano 55th), B.Damianos (M.Robertson 78th), B.Emerton (C.Zane 78th), K.Salapasidis (D.Allsop 55th), N.Rizzo (J.Burns 75th).

Australia 4 (K.Salapasidis 17th, L.Neill 47th, D.Allsop 60th, H.Foxe 65th) defeated Southampton 1

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
7th. September 1999,	Meadow Park, Boreham Wood, London, England			

Kuwait..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Kuwait..0 v. Australia U-23..0

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				
									Lucas Neill				69
									Con Blatsis				
									Hayden Foxe				
									Steve Laybutt				
									Tansel Baser				
		Bader Najem	68(pk)						Mark "Marco" Bresciano				41
									Bill Damianos				
									Brett Emerton				
									Daniel Allsop				X
									Nick Rizzo	47			69*
SUBSTITUTES													
									Jacob Burns				69
									Jason Culina				41
									Kosta Salapasidis				X
									Clayton Zane				69*

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

match report from the Australian and British Soccer Weekly, Volume 20, Number 948, 14/9/1999, page 11

The Australian Olympic Games team last Wednesday drew 1-1 in the second and final game of their week-long training camp in London.

Their opponents were the Kuwait Olympic Games team. Australia won the earlier match 4-1 against English Premier League team Southampton.

In the Kuwait match - which had Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger watching - Australia dominated but were able to convert just one of their many opportunities.

Empoli midfielder Marco Bresciano had Australia's best chances of the first half, combining with Sydney Olympic's Brett Emerton in the 12th minute but rocketing his shot off the crossbar, and teaming with his captain again two minutes later for the same result.

Crystal Palace striker Nick Rizzo finally put the Olyroos on the board two minutes into the second half, latching onto a pin-point cross from Emerton and tucking the ball into the back of the net with his first touch.

Perth goalkeeper Danny Milosevic kept the Australians in the lead after a magnificent one-on-one dave against Kuwaiti striker Bader Najem, but Najem proved his nemesis in the 68th minute, the Australian keeper bringing the striker down and incurring a penalty which levelled the scores.

"Kuwait played an extremely defensive game throughout the 90 minutes, and today we didn't quite solve that problem as well as we wanted," said coach Raul Blanco after the game.

"We had several good chances but lacked that final penetration, and while it's not easy to play against such defensive tactics, it was a very good experience for the boys. I would suggest that many teams might adopt a similar formation for the actual Games, and it's an aspect of our game that we're going to work on, but it's all part of the build up and the reason we have these camps."

"This camp exposed the boys to two totally different styles of game, where Southampton was a very direct and attacking team and Kuwait very defensive, and both matches were good lessons for us, the improvements we've made are for the betterment of the team."

"Overall it's obvious that the team is continuing to grow and get better as a unit, the commitment from every player was spot on, the understanding and the behaviour grows each time we get together, and everyone is looking forward to the next camp which will happen before the end of the year."

Australia Under-23s..1 (Nick Rizzo 47m) drew with Kuwait Under-23s..1 (Bader Najem 68m pen).

Australia: Danny Milosevic, Lucas Neill (Jacob Burns 69m), Con Blatsis, Hayden Foxe, Steve Laybutt, Tansel Baser, Marco Bresciano (Jason Culina 41m), Bill Damianos, Brett Emerton, Daniel Allsop, Nick Rizzo (Clayton Zane 69m).

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
15th. November 1999,	Tunis, Tunisia			

Tunisia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Tunisia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Joe Didulica				
									Lucas Neill				
									Tansel Baser				
									Con Blatsis				
									Vince Grella				
									Ivan Zelic				
									Kosta Salapasidis				46
									Jason Culina				79
									Daniel Allsop	15			81
									Bill Damianos				
									Mark "Marco" Bresciano				
SUBSTITUTES													
									Mile Sterjovski				46
									Mark Robertson				79
									Michael Curcija				81

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			

Date & Time	Venue	Weather	Temperature	Attendance
17th. November 1999,	Tunis, Tunisia			

Tunisia U-23..1 v. Australia U-23..1

half time, Tunisia U-23..0 v. Australia U-23..1

No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution	No.	Position	Name	Goal (minute)	Yellow Card	Red Card	Time of substitution
START LIST													
								GK	Dejan "Danny" Milosevic				
									Lucas Neill				
									Con Blatsis				
									Dragi Nastevski				
			89(pk)						Ivan Zelic				
									Jacob Burns				
									Vince Grella				
									Mark "Marco" Bresciano				
									Michael Curcija	43			65
									Daniel Allsop			25	
									Zeljko Susa				65*
SUBSTITUTES													
									Mile Sterjovski				65
									Jason Culina				65*

Team Coach		Team Coach	Raul Blanco
Team Manager		Team Manager	
Referee			
Assistant Referee 1			
Assistant Referee 2			